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THE TIMES

How the great European dream was born, page 14

o socialism while the bargain holds, Liberal leader promises

iberal Party's bargain with the Government meant e country was not going to get socialism while the ent lasted, Mr Steel, the Liberal leader, said yesterday. n Pardoe, the party's economic affairs spokesman, e believed the Chancellor was approaching the Liberals' position, which favoured a change from income tax to indirect levies. On television, the Prime Minister said that the very many people who had written or telephoned to Downing Street about the bargain with the Liberals had favoured it by a majority of 15 to 1.

Mr Steel bringing in peers to swell ranks of his team

Howard

teel, leader of the Party, said yesterday party's accommodation e Government meant country was not going ocialism for so long as ement lasted.

xamples of what the has been spared, Mr tanced the granting of wer to local authority bour organizations, the ication of some banking urance companies, and e Queen's Speech dos osely as other measures uld be laid before Par-

ed by his senior parlia- and party lieutenants, l held a press confer- o insert glosses and s in the written state- f accommodation that the Government from in Wednesday night's on the motion of no nce.

mphasized that it did not a coalition or an elec- pact: "When the elec- mes entirely depends on uccessful the arrange- is. It is true that we are mercy of the Govern- which can pull the trig- any time. But the reverse s true. The gun has two s."

n the general election Labour will be free to ign for a socialist pro-

gramme, he added. Liberals would be able to say to the country: "Look what we have done to influence politics as a fringe. How much more will we be able to do if you give us a bigger vote and we can vote from the inside?"

He would be shuffling the pack of his parliamentary colleagues to bring them into line with the ministers he hoped they would be dealing with under the new pact. Because of the shortage of Liberal members of Parliament he intended to bring some Liberal peers into his team.

It might be necessary either to prolong the session or to carry over the Bills on devolution and direct elections to the European Assembly into the next session.

Mr John Pardoe, Liberal spokesman on economic affairs, said Liberals would not have entered into the agreement unless they had been convinced, after his meetings with the Chancellor, that the Government was moving towards the Liberal position on taxation. "We want to switch from taxes on income to taxes on expenditure", he said. "I am convinced that the Chancellor is going in the same direction."

Our Parliamentary Correspondent writes: With left-wing Labour MPs eyeing their new comrades almost as warily as were the Conservatives, Mr Steel tried to smooth things in the Commons by asking Mr Callaghan to explain why it was that when Liberals had talks with the Conservative Party it was the height of patriotism, but when they did the same thing to support a Labour government it was a squalid deal.

Patriotism, Mr Callaghan replied, always exuded from the Conservatives when they were in office, but sometimes faded when they went abroad in opposition.

Flood of letters 'supports deal'

Letters and telephone messages have been flowing into 10 Downing Street about the Government's agreement with the Liberals, and they are 15 to one in favour of the deal, Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said last night (our Political Correspondent writes).

Speaking on the BBC programme *Nationwide*, in which he answered viewers' questions [details, page 2] from various parts of the United Kingdom, he appeared relaxed, in good humour, and never troubled by the questions. Even the barbed ones he turned to his own advantage.

It was to tackle inflation, to let the Government's economic policies come to fulfilment, that he had made the arrangement with the Liberals this week. "I want to see our policies win through", he said.

He impressed on his vast audience his conviction that the Government's policies were about to bring results.

"Our forecast is that if we can get another wage agreement—and it is going to be horrid for the next two or three months—after mid-June the rate of inflation should start to turn down, and next year it could even be down to single figures."

He agreed with a questioner's comment that there was "a big if" in that calculation. Then Mr Callaghan added the significant comment: "If we can ease people's burdens in the Budget, then perhaps they will not want to go for such a high rate of pay."

Rich backer ends talks on club

Twenty-four hours after the Liberals had concluded their agreement with the Government, it was announced that one of the party's richest supporters, Mr George de Chabris, was terminating negotiations concerning the lease of the National Liberal Club.

A statement by the trustees of the club said: "Arrangements have been concluded which provide security of tenure for the Liberal Party Organization and the continuation of the club. A new company, under the proposed name of National Liberal Club (Management) Ltd, is to be formed. Full details of which must first be given to members of the club at the annual general meeting in May."

Mr Philip Watkins, treasurer of the Liberal Party, said last night: "It is pure coincidence that this announcement came out today. I assure you that there is no political significance in the timing."

Heath attack on Liberal 'fear'

Mr Heath, whose failure to do a deal with Liberals cost him office in February, 1974, said at Heswall, Merseyside, last night: "We offered them a place in Government and even in the Cabinet, and they did not take it. Why? Because they did not want responsibility. They wanted the benefit of government, but they did not want the responsibility.

"If you are going to be in Government you should take the responsibility. That is what being in government is all about".

Mr Powell under fire, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 6
Leading article, page 15

al line-up: From left to right at the Liberal Party press conference at the Royal Commonwealth Society, London, yesterday: Mr Thorpe, Lord , Mr Steel, Mr Tordoff (chairman, Liberal Party), Mr Pardoe, Mr Ross and Mr Freud.

Responses to Annan invited by July 1

By Staff Reporters

After 2½ years' preparation the Annan committee yesterday delivered its verdict on British broadcasting. The Government immediately set in motion the machinery that will allow all interested groups and individuals to digest and comment on it before a White Paper is prepared for publication in December. Legislation is expected early next year.

The committee pronounced the nation's broadcasting, "healthy, but with a few latent diseases". The cure, it said, was the establishment of five new bodies, including a big one to look after radio and another to administer the fourth television channel, which the committee had decided should not go to independent television.

There will be a big debate in Parliament on the 300-page report and its 174 recommendations, which cover everything from excessive violence on television to "canned" laughter in programmes. Apart from a split over whether the BBC should be divided in two, the committee's 16 members were unanimous in their findings.

In the Commons, Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, invited all interested individuals and groups, including those who had submitted evidence to the committee, to let him have their comments by July 1.

"What is now essential is that there should be a full debate, not just in this House but also in the country, on the important issues raised in the report", he said.

The Annan recommendations, which were disclosed prematurely last weekend, include a ban on advertising during and between children's television programmes, some sponsorship of programmes to come under the umbrella of the proposed open authority, local radio mostly financed by advertising, and the establishment of a public inquiry board

The committee did not expect the fourth television channel to be in operation until the 1980s.

Amid the statements welcoming the publication of the £315,000 report, however, there were some of dissent. The commercial television companies, the IBA and Mr Whitelaw, deputy leader of the Conservative Party, came out firmly against the proposal to establish an open broadcasting authority instead of awarding the fourth television channel to ITV.

Sir Denis Forman, chairman of the Independent Television Companies' Association (Itca), said ITV could have the fourth channel ready by 1979. It would cost an estimated £60m in its first year and would expect to break even or be in profit by its third year.

Itca, the IBA and the BBC all condemned any move to take local radio under a new authority. The BBC governors, said the report appeared to seek to confine the BBC primarily to national functions.

Sir Brian Young, Director General of the IBA, said the report was "most disheartening to workers in Independent Broadcasting who have carried forward important advances by working day in and day out". Annan, he said, was very shaky on financial realism over the new television authority: "like a castle in Spain, pretty on a postcard, but not to be lived in as far as one can see".

A Scottish member of the committee, Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland, said in Edinburgh that he thought Scotland had done remarkably well out of the report. The committee wanted the BBC to contract its regional commitment but it had been agreed that Scotland should be treated as a nation and not as a region.

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Leading article, page 15

Amin pilot stays

Mr Charles Balidawa, the Ugandan pilot who sought refuge in Britain, is to be allowed to stay, the Home Office said yesterday. He defected from a flying school in Perth.

Mr Balidawa, aged 27, was proclaimed a national hero by President Amin earlier this year for landing his aircraft carrying a party of Britons in the bush during a storm.

Mr Desai pledges full non-alignment in Indian foreign policy

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, March 24

Mr Morarji Desai, aged 81, the leader of the victorious Janata (People's) Party, was sworn in today as India's new Prime Minister. He declared immediately that the country would adopt a foreign policy of "proper" non-alignment.

Asked about the 1971 Indo-Soviet treaty of friendship, Mr Desai emphasized that India was not seeking a special relationship with any country. It would act on the treaty, he said, "in such a way that it did not come in the way of friendship with any other state"

The treaty could not be dissolved but Mr Desai said that should it ever be seen to hurt India's interest it would be for the Russians "to do what they want in the light of India's stance".

On relations with the United States, Mr Desai spoke of friendship, "provided they also reciprocate". He replied similarly when asked about China.

The new Prime Minister gave a press conference immediately after being sworn in by Mr B. D. Jatti, the acting President. He kept open the door for Babu Jagjivan Ram, his rival and leader of the Congress for Democracy, to join the new Cabinet. Earlier Mr Ram issued a statement that his group, which fought the election in tandem with Janata, would be co-operating with the new Administration but sitting in the Lok Sabha as a separate group.

"I do still have hopes", Mr Desai replied when the first question was put to him about the Congress for Democracy joining the Government. The position tonight was still fluid, with pressures still being exerted by both sides.

Mr Ram had held out for the premiership to the last, but the impression in Delhi is that he asked for too much, leaving Mr Charan Singh, the deputy Janata leader from Uttar Pradesh and the third contender for the office, as the "king-maker". He swung his block of votes behind Mr Desai.

At his press conference Mr Desai, wearing a Nehru-style white suit and cap on a close-shaven head and looking through tinted glasses, mingled general answers with a sermonizing attitude which was made attractive by easy jokes.

Asked if he felt too old for the task at 81, the new Prime Minister replied: "I am only 19, according to the English calendar." He was born on February 29, 1896.

Mr Desai was asked if the new Government would be more receptive to Western investment. He deftly replied: "That's a blanket question but I cannot give a blanket reply."

He promised legislation to ensure that actions such as Mrs Indira Gandhi's emergency could not be repeated, but emphasized that only a fearless people could make democracy safe.

Pressed about Janata's election pledge to ensure the right to work, Mr Desai said he believed that achieving that goal within a decade was realistic. "It may not be employment to the liking of everyone, but we will see that each man gets a livelihood—that is possible."

The Prime Minister cautioned those who have speculated on a spectacular shift away from heavy industry. "You live in the modern world", he told them.

Another important political figure who, like Mr Ram, will not apparently be joining Mr Desai's Cabinet is Mr George Fernandes, the Socialist leader who belongs to the Janata Alliance. He indicated today that his efforts would be directed to getting the Janata election manifesto's promises implemented "in a concrete way".

Mr Desai is expected to announce names for the principal posts in his Cabinet tomorrow.

Delhi, March 24.—One of the Janata Party's general secretaries, Mr Ram Dhan, resigned his post this evening in protest against the way in which Mr Desai was chosen as Prime Minister.

Mr Desai was picked by two elder statesmen of the party who had been authorized to decide on the new leader by a joint meeting of Janata and Congress for Democracy MPs. But Mr Dhan, an MP himself, said it had originally been agreed that every member of the two parliamentary parties would be consulted.

In a letter to Mr Desai, he said the leadership issue had been resolved "in the dictatorial style" of the ousted Congress Party.

Mr Dhan, who quit the Congress Party in 1975, said: "Many of us fought for strengthening democratic norms within the Congress and suffered for the restoration of these rights to our countrymen."—Reuter.

Desai profile, page 10

Mr Tikkoo asks £3.5m for his London home

By Robert Parker

More than £3.5m is being asked by Mr Ravi Tikkoo, owner of the Globtik Tanker Company, for his 20-room house in Hampstead, London. He is leaving the country because he is said to be upset with many things about Britain, including the high rate of taxation.

Mr Tikkoo received much publicity recently over a dispute on one of his ships, the Globtik Venus.

He bought the house, Kenstea dHall, in The Bishop's Avenue, in 1973 for £500,000 and is said to have spent £1m on decorations and security.

The agents handling the sale said yesterday that no difficulty was expected in selling the house for between £3.5m and £3.8m.

Before Mr Tikkoo bought the house it exchanged hands in 1969 for £108,000. The two agents for the present sale are Hamptons, and Weatherall Green and Smith.

Reports yesterday that another Hampstead house, Beechwood in Hampstead Lane, had been sold for £1.9m to King Khaled of Saudi Arabia were denied by Evans, Dodd and Summerton, West End solicitors. A statement agreed that the house had been sold but said reports of "the identity of the purchaser and terms of sale are inaccurate".

Leading London estate agents expressed no surprise at the high prices being asked for property. One said that because of the shortage of "outstanding" houses to meet the demand of the rich people who wanted to live in London there would probably be more asking prices at similar high levels.

tempt to beralize nnabis w fails

gh Noyes
umentary Correspondent
ninster

attempt to liberalize the n cannabis was rejected in House of Lords yesterday an amendment to the inal Law Bill was defeated 3 votes to 77, a government rity of six.

rd Harris, of Greenwich, ster of State, Home Office, sing the Liberal and back- h Labour amendment, said entral purpose was to re- the possibility of impris- nts being imposed by a of summary jurisdiction conviction of unlawful ssion of cannabis or bis resin.

e amendment, if agreed, d have the remarkable of preventing the possi- of imprisonment in any mstances for the possession annabis, a class B drug. ession of a class C drug, h was a less serious mat- would continue to be im- nable.

rd Harris said that situa- would be wholly anomalous ndefensible. Another, more amental, objection was that tremely confused situation arisen because of a recent judgment. The effect of was that although cannabis was not a drug controlled he Misuse of Drugs Act, persons found in posses- of leaf material were liable osecution for the more seri- ffence of possessing a class ug contained in the leaf.

ose developments had a antial effect on the whole relating to the control of abis, and because of als it might be some time e legal proceedings were luded.

rd Harris promised that Government would give us consideration to the s expressed in the debate t could not give an explicit tirment now for any par- ar course of action. The rnment would seriously into the possibility about ing the point over im- onment for first offenders.

rd Harris said the Govern- t's view was that the ndment went too far in pro- ng to remove the possibility mprisonment not only for first or second offence but any number of offences on mary conviction.

arliamentary report, page 6

N Sea yielding third of our oil

Oil output in the British sector of the North Sea rose by more than 100,000 barrels a day last month. The fields can already meet a third of the country's oil needs, saving Britain well over £4m a day in imports. With the seven producing fields further increasing their yields and more fields starting up, the Government hopes that last year's oil import costs of £4,000m can be trimmed this year to a deficit of less than £2,700m Page 17

Former chief justice hurt in Ulster blast

Lord MacDermott, a former Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, was one of nine people injured in an explosion at the Ulster Polytechnic. In another incident, Provisional IRA gunmen hijacked an oil tanker and attached a bomb to it. The blast wrecked a workshop and slightly damaged a police station, the main target Page 2

Independent Meehan case inquiry

An independent private inquiry will be held by Lord Hunter into the murder of Mrs Rachel Ross at Ayr in 1969, for which Mr Patrick Meehan served seven years' imprisonment before being given a royal pardon. Mr Meehan has rejected a compensation offer of £7,500 on the ground that it was inadequate Page 7

Funeral profits 'high'

Profits made by the larger undertakers are generous and there is room for a reduction, best achieved by holding prices steady or reducing prospective increases, the Price Commission says in a report. But it found no evidence of profiteering in funeral charges Page 5

Plan for young jobless

A £200m-a-year plan has been drawn up by the Manpower Services Commission to alleviate the effects of unemployment among school-leavers which, the commission predicts, may stay at this year's record level for at least five years Page 7

Catholics 'almost united against abortion'

A survey of Roman Catholic newspaper readers indicates that although Catholics are almost united in opposition to abortion there is a diversity of opinion on many other matters. Most think that the church is not doing enough about the situation in Northern Ireland and nearly half think there it not enough lay participation in church affairs, slightly more than those who think there is enough or too much Page 3

Eurovision singers wait

A decision is expected within a few days about a substitute venue and date for the Eurovision Song Contest. The European Broadcasting Union says it accepts that, because of a BBC cameramen's pay dispute, the event cannot be held in London on April 2 as planned Page 7

US unions rebuffed

Against all predictions, 88 Democrats joined the Republican "rump" to defeat in the House of Representatives a Bill backed by the American unions legalizing strike picketing of an entire building site where only one subcontractor might be in dispute. Pending union-supported legislation is now in doubt Page 8

£800m stock sold out

A new £800m Government stock was four times over subscribed when it came to the market yesterday. Shortly afterwards the Bank of England indicated that it did not wish to see a further reduction today in minimum lending rate from 10½ per cent Page 17

Mr Carter hopeful of arms pact

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 24

New proposals for "substantial" nuclear arms reductions—not just "limitations"—will be taken to the Soviet Union this weekend by Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, President Carter announced today.

Saying that he hoped for agreement, the President insisted that he had seen nothing in the recent complaints of Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, about American outspokenness over human rights, to suggest that the Soviet leaders were not interested in making arms control agreements.

At the same time Mr Carter used his fortnightly televised news conference to remind the world that he intends matching the Kremlin leadership in the ideological argument. Noting that Mr Brezhnev resisted "interference" in its internal affairs, the President argued that such a word was "well recognized" as meaning an attempt to overthrow government or intrude with military force—and the United States was trying none of that.

For good measure, although to a different question, Mr Carter responded robustly that

Continued on page 8, col 5

Check of concrete columns urged for 350 buildings

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Owners of well over 350 buildings in Britain that incorporate a special type of prestressed concrete column have been urged by the Government to carry out careful checks. The Building Research Establishment has also been asked to carry out a detailed investigation.

The Department of the Environment and the Department of Education and Science have written to the owners of buildings constructed on the Intergrid pattern at the request of the main contractor, Gilbert Ash. They advise inspection and testing because of the discovery of corrosion in the precast prestressed columns in a school assembly hall at the end of last year.

Most of the buildings involved are schools and offices on about 170 sites in England. The Department of the Environment said last night that about 350 buildings might be involved, along with an unknown number of others in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The faults in the columns of the school hall were attributed to corrosion of pre-stressing tendons and secondary reinforcement, probably caused by the use of calcium chloride to accelerate the hardening of concrete. Since then calcium chloride, and in some instances visible damage, have been discovered in five other buildings of the Intergrid type.

Gilbert Ash, on advice from its consulting engineers, consider that in the interest of public safety all prestressed columns and roof and floor beams should be visually inspected by experts and the concrete tested to determine the extent of chloride.

The letter from the two ministries to owners of buildings involved stated that if visible evidence of faults was discovered, or if tests revealed that calcium chloride had been added to the concrete, owners' engineers would have to decide what measures would be necessary to safeguard buildings.

HOME NEWS

Powell abstention makes 'loyalists' determined to unseat him

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

In Northern Ireland the political turmoil at Westminster during the past few days has exacerbated the divisions among Protestant politicians and the parties making up the fragile "loyalist" coalition.

Many Unionist supporters were angry that three of the eight Ulster Unionist Coalition MPs had abstained in Wednesday's "no confidence" division. Much of the criticism was reserved for Mr Enoch Powell, regarded in extreme loyalist circles as a man working against the return of majority rule for the province.

Other Unionists said their MPs had wrung important concessions out of the Government, particularly on the question of extra parliamentary seats for Northern Ireland. "Our boys have brought home the bacon, and we don't care whether they had to dance on the roof of Westminster to get it", a prominent Official Unionist said.

An indication of the extent of the resentment will come in Belfast today when the Ulster Unionist Council, the controlling body of the Official Unionists, holds its annual meeting.

Among those who will be criticizing the attitude of the Westminster MPs will be Mr Harry West, leader of the party and head of the loyalist coalition. He led many of his fellow loyalists in demanding a solid vote against the Government.

The increased feeling against Mr Powell aroused by his abstention will guarantee powerful loyalist opposition to his attempts to win the loyalist coalition's endorsement of his candidacy in his Down, South, constituency at the next general election.

The hard-line United Ulster Unionist Movement, one of the three coalition parties, has already nominated a local businessman to contest the endorsement.

Last night Mr Ernest Baird, its leader, said: "Many loyalists are bitterly disappointed and angry at the fact that the MPs have squandered their chances. This has convinced people that Mr Powell is not working for our best interests and increased our resolve to see that he loses his seat."

Before Wednesday night's vote several loyalist groups, including the association representing former members of the B Specials, announced their intention of opposing any MP who did not vote against the Government.

On the question of extra representation at Westminster for Ulster, many Unionists expect that the Speaker's conference will eventually recommend six more seats to bring the Ulster total to 18. If such a recommendation is approved by Parliament, it is widely expected that the boundaries would be drawn so as to permit Roman Catholic politicians to benefit as well as Protestants.

Scotland: A sense of relief was evident among many Scottish politicians yesterday at the news that they would not have to fight a general election in the immediate future (Martin Huckerby writes from Edinburgh).

The Scottish nationalists, the only party in the country that had welcomed the possibility of an election, were understandably depressed, and angry at the thought that the issues of devolution and independence would not be put to the vote.

Labour members, however, were grateful for the postponement. An official of the party's Scottish Council in Glasgow said there was now an opportunity to get the devolution Bill back into the Commons. That would be helpful to the party in electoral terms because it wanted to be able to show the voters positive signs that Labour was keeping to its commitment to devolution.

The Conservatives were happy to have some breathing space in which to resolve their internal differences over devolution, but they shared the general anger of their party over what they saw as Mr Callaghan's narrow escape.

Several Conservative leaders in Scotland criticized the Liberals for their bargain with the Government, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, MP for Edinburgh, Pentlands, said 20 Liberal supporters in his constituency had said they would support the Conservatives in future.

He understood that Liberals in the Edinburgh, North, constituency had announced their intention of doing the same and he did not doubt that similar developments were taking place all over Scotland.

The Scottish Liberals agreed that they had been receiving critical telephone calls from Liberal voters, but said the general response from their constituency parties had been that the arrangement with the Government was sensible.

They had no fear of a great number of defections in Scotland, particularly because the arrangement with Labour held out hope of reviving the devolution plans.

The Liberals did not want an election, unlike the breakaway Scottish Labour Party, which, although ill prepared for an election, still wanted to go to the hustings.

Mr Alex Neil, the party secretary, said his members would have welcomed a verdict from the Scottish people on the behaviour of the Labour and Conservative parties over the devolution Bill.

The Scottish TUC expressed pleasure at the survival of the Government, although Mr James Milne, the general secretary, hoped the bargain with the Liberals would not compromise Labour.

Mr George Lawson, director of the Scotland is British Campaign, thought an election might have shown that the Scots were not really interested in devolution. He was also unhappy about the repeated assertion by the Government that it was determined to go ahead with a devolution Bill.

Wales: Nationalist reaction in Wales at the bargain was fierce (Trevor Fishlock writes from Cardiff).

Mr Gwynfor Evans, president of Plaid Cymru, said: "The Liberal pact with the Government to sustain it in office is the last bankrupt act of a party facing annihilation. The Lib-Lab agreement means that the Government has abandoned socialism and formally confirmed its role as a pink Tory Government. The Liberals could lose both their seats in Wales at the next election."

In Labour Party circles there was general relief that there is to be no election, although some were unhappy about the bargain.

Conservatives in Wales were encouraged by an opinion poll that shows a big increase in support for their party, but some were saying privately that although the party would have done well in a general election now was not the best time for one.

The North-east: Opinions in Yorkshire and Humberside largely reflected the views of national leaders (Ronald Kershaw writes). Among Labour supporters there was a sense of relief on two grounds: first that the Government had remained in office and second that there was to be no general election to interfere with the campaign for the county elections on May 5.

Mr Harold Sims, the party's regional secretary, said most party workers had believed that the vote would turn out satisfactorily.

Conservative party workers were disappointed at a lost opportunity. One said: "Nobody was surprised at the Liberals and everybody thinks they must be crazy to do such a silly deal." For the first time in decades they were to be held accountable for their actions.

"Much as we hoped for a general election and the chance to get this Government off our backs, we knew the Liberals would renegue and fail to come up to scratch as they always do."

The principal feature of Liberal response in the region was that no opposition to the bargain showed itself among party supporters.

A party official said there was a general feeling that the party had achieved a position of having a real voice in government for the first time in 50 years. Party activists were "very much for" the bargain.

The view was that the deal was support for government rather than support for the Labour Government. Throughout the region there had been a common feeling that Mrs Thatcher's performance in Wednesday's debate had been lamentable.

The North-west: The Labour Party's north-west region, which covers 80 constituencies, 52 of them with Labour MPs, was split two to one in favour of the Government's agreement with the Liberals. Mr Paul Carmody, the regional organizer, said (a Staff Reporter writes).

The regional party's annual meeting at the weekend had discussed the likelihood of a bargain with the Liberals, he added, and the majority had decided that such a deal was the best arrangement to keep the Government in office to negotiate a new stage of the incomes policy with the unions.

"I think that view will hold after Wednesday's vote, but some Young Socialists did not want any deal", Mr Carmody said. "They wanted the party to remain 'pure'."

Mr Gordon Bayley, leader of the 12 Liberals on Greater Manchester council, said that there had been little, if any, adverse reaction to the agreement from committed Liberals.

"The general reaction is that David Steel has grown in national stature and that at last the Liberal Party is achieving something", he said. "I think we are now going to have a considerable influence on the shape of phase three of the Government's income policy."

The heard instinct that unites composers

By Peter Waymark

What do Bach and [Stra]vinsky, Handel and Sho[stak]vich, Mozart and Vaughan [Wil]liams, Haydn and Sibelius [have] in common, apart from [being] great composers? Or, co[rrectly], that Lennon and McC[artney], Richard Rodgers and [Oscar Ham]mer[stein] are known American who [wrote] "Polly-Wolly-Doodle"?

According to Mr Denis Parsons it is a remarkable [tribute to the] sure of agreement on [how to] start a melody. "some s[ort of] herd instinct drives al[l com]posers to a standard [cad]ence" he writes in *Scientist* almost if they [were] the "official" formula [for] beginning a theme pas[ting] side their piano lids.

To gather evidence, M[r Par]sons, who is head of [music] relations at the Britis[h Li]brary, analysed 7,387 the[mes of] 30 classical composers. [At] least, the first three no[tes of] each theme.

His aim was to establi[sh a] "pitch profile". The [second] note of the theme is com[pared] with the first, accordi[ng to] whether it is a higher, [the same,] lower pitch or the same. [Simi]larly, the third note m[ay go] up, or down, or repea[t the] second note. There are [nine] possible combinations.

Mr Parsons found the overwhelming choice of [the] composers, be they Ra[vel, Ar]thur Sullivan, Elgar or Verdi, to follow the first note b[y a note] of higher pitch. In fact 2[...] that formula in first [...] Next in favour was a m[...] that began base note/up/[...] and third most common wa[s a] combination base note/d[own/] up.

Of the chosen composer[s] banished to bottom place[s the] formula in which the i[nitial] note is followed by on[e of a] lower pitch and then repe[ats.] However, as Mr Parsons p[oints] out, that happens to be [the] basis of one of the [most] famous classical melodies [the] opening theme of Mo[zart's] Symphony No 40 in G mino[r].

To buttress his theory [...] farther, Mr Parsons exa[mined] 3,005 more themes repr[esent]ing 270 classical composer[s] included in the original [...] 30, and found much the [same] result. Nor was the pa[ttern] that much different whe[n he] took 3,763 popular [...] except that the preferen[ce at the] beginning melodies with [an] initial note followed by t[he] higher pitch was even [stron]ger.

Mr Parsons has [been] engaged in this unusual [form] of musical analysis for [...] years. In 1975 he publish[ed] *Directory of Tunes and [Musi]cal Themes* in which he [dis]guished and identified [...] classical melodies from B[eethoven to] Britten and 4,000 pop[ular] tunes without recourse to [any] other yardstick such as in[ter]vals, key, duration and rhyth[m].

He extended his [...] through 16 notes and man[aged] to link the dance of the [...] tess in Verdi's *Aida* with [...] Grieg Sonata No 3 for V[iolin] and Piano and point out [a] close similarity bet[ween] themes from the Brahms [Sym]phony No 2 and the Ha[...] chord Sonata in D by Scarla[tti].

In the popular field [he] showed how "The White [Cliffs] of Dover" anticipated the [Beat]les' "She Loves You".

And what, asks Mr Par[sons,] will the musicologists ma[ke of] it? They will certainly a[dmire] his ingenuity and his ind[ustry] but possibly conclude th[at at] the end of it all Mozart [does] not sound very much like [Stra]vinsky, that Henry Ma[nci]ni does not sound like either, [and] long may it remain.

Left wing seeks emergency meeting of party executive committee

By David Leigh
Political Staff

Left-wing members of the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party were last night seeking to find the 15 signatures necessary to call an emergency meeting of the executive. Last night signatories included Mr Ian Mikardo, Mr Eric Heffer, Mr Frank Allaun, Miss Joan Maynard and Mr Nick Bradley of the Labour Young Socialists.

But calls for a rapid emergency meeting of the parliamentary party were greeted with hostility by backbenchers at last night's party meeting. When Mr Ron Thomas, chairman of the *Tribune* group joined one or two others in calling for an early meeting to discuss the new pact, he said some MPs were against it. The response was described variously as "hostile mutterings" and "a loud rumble of dissent".

The backbench-government liaison committee will meet next Wednesday to consider the request for a debate, but MPs will be out of the House in large numbers campaigning at the Birmingham Stechford, by-election. That probably means postponing a debate until the following week, by which time even *Tribunite* emotions are bound to have cooled.

Mr Cledwyn Hughes, Parliamentary Labour Party chairman, said in a radio party political broadcast that the Liberal pact "is not something that we in the Labour Party are happy about, but it is something we have got to live with".

Last night, Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, went to Stechford where he drew a picture of Labour and Liberals together as "men and women of public spirit and practical common sense who have agreed to work together in the national interest. They have committed themselves to placing the pursuit of economic recovery above all other ends."

Mr Hattersley said the Liberal candidate, whose party trails a good third, was clearly not a real contender at the by-election. He did his best to rub Mrs Thatcher's nose in the outcome of her failure to oust the Government, accusing her of "partisan antics", making the pound fall, lacking patriotism, being obsessed with self-interest and vanity, and also being inept, trite and cynical.

Diverse opinions, he said, stretching from the Stock Exchange to the TUC, wanted the Government to avoid a damaging election, "but the national interest meant less to Mrs Thatcher than the vague prospect of promotion and the faint hope of preferment".

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Conservative environment spokesman, also went to Stechford, and tried to rescue the Tory position.

Liberals were really Tories, he suggested, who had betrayed their true alignment, and played not only into the hands of Mr Callaghan, but also into those of the Labour left. "And none of this need have happened if in 1974 the Liberals had accepted our offer of partnership in the Government. The Liberals let the Socialists in. Now they keep them there."

He had always believed that the differences between the basic convictions of Conservatives and Liberals were artificial. "I thought until last night that the Liberals agreed with us on socialism."

There had been an opportunity to halt the socialist march for a generation, and the Liberals had thrown it to the winds to save their own seats. Mr Callaghan would "sink the knife deep between those shoulder-blades" when it suited him, Mr Heseltine said.

Mr Mikardo told his local party in Tower Hamlets last night that the Government would be unable to deliver any part of the bargain which ran counter to Labour and trade union aspirations. "There are enough opponents of the deal within the PLP to make sure of that."

Mr Emlyn Hooson, Liberal MP for Montgomeryshire, said last night: "The Liberals aim to act as a great moderating force on the Government, and will not tolerate any further acts of nationalization or deviation from sensible and moderate policies aimed directly at national economic recovery."

By-election flurry over Westminster party deal

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

The Birmingham, Stechford by-election which had seemed well on course for a narrow Labour victory, was thrown wide open yesterday by the Labour-Liberal arrangement, which received virtually overwhelming support from people in the streets.

Mr Graham Gopsill, the Liberal candidate, who had not been in favour of the agreement, said: "I am quite happy about the situation. Let's face it, I have to be happy about it." He saw it as the lodestone for an already vigorous campaign, and street interviews later in the day seemed to confirm this.

Of 52 people interviewed in the main shopping areas at Washwood Heath and Shard End, 46 said that it was a relief to know that the bickering and party conflict had been halted in Westminster. There was a feeling that Labour, with the influence of its left wing diminished, would have the chance of a clear run to some sort of stability.

Several people said that they had long hoped for a coalition of some sort, representing all interests, and the Callaghan-Steele arrangement, while not going all the way, was at least a start.

In the pavement straw poll in a constituency with an historical support for Labour, the Liberals seemed to stand up well and could now get far more support than they could have hoped for 48 hours ago. However illusory it might be, the whiff of power had them flexing their muscles.

Some party supporters thought that it might ultimately lead to a Liberal government.

Mr David Steel will be back in the constituency tomorrow, for his third visit, and a letter from him on the new situation will go to all voters next week.

Mr Gopsill said: "You can now say that two days is a long time in politics and we are altering the course of our campaign." The new line to be followed in an intensive leaflet campaign is that "a Liberal MP for Stechford will help to wield a vast influence on your behalf in the government of this country. Put Stechford where the action is—up at the front".

The size of the Liberal vote next Thursday is imponderable, but the claim of growing support is backed by the pavement poll. The question now is whether they will take enough votes from Mr Terence Davis (Labour) to let Mr Andrew MacKay (Conservative) win by a short head.

Mr Mackay, who will have the support of Mrs Thatcher today, said that the country's interests had been sacrificed by an act of political cowardice. It was up to Stechford to give the real verdict.

Mr Davis has an air of comfortable assurance and maturity not matched by his opponents (he was MP for Bromsgrove between 1971-74). Nevertheless it could be a bumpy run for him next week.

Polling, March 31. Candidates: Terence Davis (Lab), Andrew MacKay (C), Graham Gopsill (L), Andrew Brons (NF), Paul Foot (Socialist Workers), Brian Heron (International Marxist).

General Election, Oct. 1974: R. H. Jenkins (Lab), 23,075; D. Wedgwood (C), 11,152; G. A. Gopsill (L), 5,860. Lab majority 11,923.

Former chief justice hurt in Ulster blast

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

Lord MacDermott, a former Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, was one of nine people injured when a bomb exploded without warning yesterday inside a crowded lecture theatre at the Ulster Polytechnic on the outskirts of Belfast.

Detectives believe the 5lb bomb, the second to explode at the campus this year, was concealed under a platform in front of the theatre. Lord MacDermott had just begun speaking when the bomb went off, showering the room with rubble. There were more than 150 students in the room. College nursing staff provided first aid treatment.

Four of the nine injured received hospital treatment. They included Lord MacDermott, whose wounds were not serious, and a college law lecturer, who was said by the police to be seriously ill with face and chest injuries.

It seems to have been the bomber's intention to kill Lord MacDermott, whose special lecture had been announced to law students 48 hours in advance.

The attack was the latest of several aimed at the judiciary in Northern Ireland. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Lord MacDermott's son, Mr Justice John MacDermott, recently imposed sentences of more than 700 years on 26 members of the illegal Protestant Ulster Volunteer Force.

The previous bombing at the college was claimed by the Provisional IRA because of the Army's recruiting programme among students.

Belfast girl shot

A girl, aged 13, was shot and seriously wounded when she answered a knock at the door of her home in the New Lodge area of Belfast last night.

Electrical repairs to cost more

By Roger Vielvoye

The London Electricity Board is to increase charges for home calls by repair men in an attempt to end small losses in that part of its electrical retailing business.

From April 1 customers will be charged £6.50 plus VAT for the first 15 minutes a repair man spends in their homes, with £1.35 for each extra 15 minutes. There will be a 40 per cent surcharge on materials used.

Previously there was a charge of £6.75 an hour but customers also had to pay for travelling time by LEB staff.

The LEB said the increases did not need Price Commission approval as a watch was kept on the profitability of the board's retailing.

In a statement, the LEB said: "All our overheads are normal commercial overheads and we are in competition with the High Street in this respect."

Callaghan hint of action on low wages

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, answered viewers' questions on social security benefit, inflation, pensions and police pay when he appeared on *BBC's Nationwide* last night. It was the second time he had appeared on the programme this week.

Answering Mr Alfred Collins, a trade union official calling from a London studio, about the rate of social security benefit compared with the wages that some employers offered, Mr Callaghan conceded that there were occasions when the employer had trouble finding workers because what they could offer was less than a man could obtain from social security.

Like police pay, he said, it all came back to the effects of inflation. "I think, I hope, the Chancellor of the Exchequer is going to be able to increase the gap between those two groups in his Budget next week", Mr Callaghan said.

"Do not tempt me any further or I shall be arraigned before the House of Commons for giving away Budget secrets. . . . Because of inflation, we have raised the level of social security benefits, and do not forget that two thirds of those using the system are pensioners. . . . With the restraint on incomes, the gap has got too narrow."

The Prime Minister was asked: Were not the social security amenities far too easy to obtain? Mr Callaghan would not agree. There were nine million old age pensioners who drew benefit, he said.

Perhaps the toughest questions came from a pensioner and a self-employed man who complained about the tax on pensions, and the weight of bureaucracy. Mr Callaghan promised seriously to look into the amount of form-filling the self-employed are required to undertake.

Mr Callaghan emphasized, after exchanges with the pensioner, that if a retired man had unearned income from investments and that, with the pension, took him into the tax bracket, the whole income had to be taken into account.

Mr Fergus Ford, aged 71, the questioner, remained unconvinced, however, and Mr Callaghan commented: "I see I have not convinced you. I have never convinced a single old age pensioner that pensions should be taxed. . . .

Mr Callaghan gave a long and detailed explanation of the Government's inability to cancel out the proposed increase in the price of gas.

"Maybe we ought to look at this increase as it affects pensioners."

Radioactive waste question still unanswered

By Our Science Editor

The still-unanswered questions about disposal of radioactive wastes, raised as a matter of concern by the last report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, are a long way from solution. That emerges from an assessment by Dr P. D. Grimwood and Dr J. A. M. Webb of the National Radiological Protection Board, of the consequences of using the ocean bed as the dumping ground for these hazardous materials.

They calculate a total high level of waste which could be produced by the world nuclear power programme by the year 2000, and assume that all the waste in a solidified form is discarded in the North Atlantic.

Fuel elements from reactors are processed to recover plutonium and unused uranium, and separate unwanted waste. At present those effluents are stored as liquids in containment tanks. That type of storage, described as "engineered storage facilities needing surveillance", is not suitable for the hundreds of years needed for the safe disposal of such materials.

The waste would be stored in glass blocks, encased in stainless steel cylinders. One would contain the waste of about 5.5 tonnes of fuel. Thus, by the year 2000, 72,000 such cylinders could be dumped on the ocean floor.

Provided the containers are as stable as believed, the authors of the report think there should be no releases of radioactivity in sudden concentrations that would become an acute threat to man.

Court upholds claim that guns are antiques

From Our Correspondent
Chichester

A gun owner whose defence that four weapons he had on his wall were antique ornaments was cleared by a jury at Chichester Crown Court, Sussex, yesterday of not having a firearm certificate.

The court was told that two rifles and two revolvers owned by Martin Edwards, aged 33, a general dealer, of Lidsey Farm Annexe, Lidsey, near Bognor Regis, dated from about 1860 to the early 1900s. Most of them were in poor condition and had parts missing.

In giving guidelines to the jury of eight men and four women, Judge Hammerton said in his summing-up: "A firearm that is of a substantial age and of a type no longer being produced and is no longer capable of being used as a weapon is more than likely to be an antique weapon.

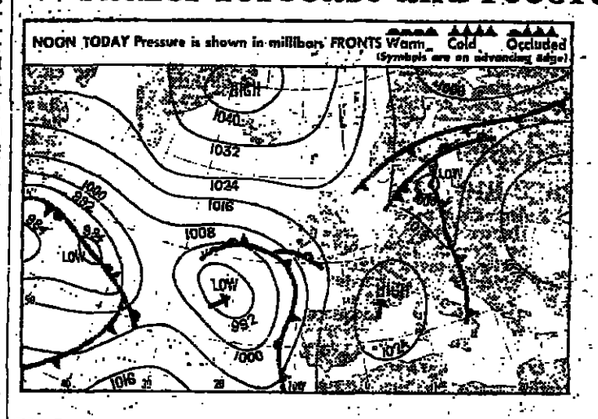
"Secondly, if a firearm is of a kind still being produced, even though the actual weapon is some years old, then it is unlikely to be an antique firearm.

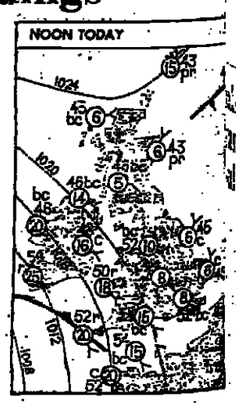
"If it is of such an age that it is no longer being made but could be made usable and brought back to its initial condition then it becomes a matter of fact and degree whether it is an antique firearm.

"The older it is and the more substantial the amount of [restoration] work the more likely it is to be an antique. The newer and the less substantial the work the less likely it is to be an antique."

Mr Edwards, who pleaded not guilty to having no certificate, was told by the judge that he could put the guns back.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 6.52 am. Sun sets: 7.22 pm
Moon sets: 12.25 am. Moon rises: 9.33 a.m.
First Quarter: March 27.
Lighting up: 7.52 pm to 6.20 am.

High water: London Bridge, 5.32 am, 6.9m (22.7ft); 6.11 pm, 6.8m (22.3ft). Avonmouth, 11.6 am 11.9m (38.9ft); 11.11 pm, 11.6m (37.9ft). Dover, 2.50 am, 6.2m (20.4ft); 3.7 pm, 6.0m (19.7ft). Hull, 10.3 am, 6.6m (21.6ft); 10.18 pm, 6.5m (21.2ft). Liverpool, 3.0 am, 8.4m (27.4ft); 3.19 pm, 8.2m (26.9ft).

Pressure will be high over the British Isles but troughs of low pressure will cross W areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London and SE England: Mostly dry, sunny intervals after early fog; wind variable, light; max temp 14° or 15°C (57° to 59°F).

East Anglia, E Midlands, E and central N England: Mostly dry, sunny intervals developing after early mist; wind variable, light; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Central S England and W Midlands: Sunny intervals after misty start, rather cloudy later, perhaps some rain; wind variable, becoming SE, moderate; max temp 14°C (57°F).

Channel Islands, SW England, Wales and N Ireland: Becoming cloudy with rain, perhaps heavy; hill and coast fog patches; wind SE, fresh, perhaps gale later; max temp 11° or 12°C (52° to 54°F).

NE and NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland and Glasgow: Mostly dry and sunny at first, becoming cloudy later, perhaps with rain; wind SE, moderate; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Edinburgh and Dundee, central Highlands, Argyll and NW Scotland: Mostly dry, sunny intervals; wind variable or NE, light; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney and Shetland: Occasional showers, wintry on hills, rather cloudy but sunny intervals; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: S Britain will be rather cloudy with rain at times, normal temps; rather cold, night frost and wintry showers N.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind light, variable; sea smooth.

English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind mainly S, becoming moderate; sea slight.

Irish Sea: Wind SE, moderate increasing to strong, perhaps gale force later from S; sea becoming rough later.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 9°C (48°F); min, 7 pm to 7 am, 6°C (43°F); Humidity, 7 pm, 63 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.03in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.1 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,024.7 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	20	68	Cardiff	c	9	48	Jersey	s	10	50	Moscow	s	1	34
Algiers	s	18	64	Chicago	c	3	37	L Palmas	s	20	68	Munich	s	20	68
Ajaccio	s	16	61	Cologne	c	13	55	Lisbon	s	16	61	Naples	s	20	68
Athens	s	22	72	Copenhgn	s	7	45	Locarno	r	9	48	Nice	s	15	59
Barcelona	s	15	59	Dublin	f	6	43	London	c	7	45	Oslo	c	1	34
Belfast	s	10	50	Edinburgh	c	6	43	Luxembrg	s	13	55	Paris	s	10	50
Berlin	s	14	57	Florence	f	11	52	Madrid	s	17	63	Rome	r	10	50
Bermuda	c	18	65	Funchal	c	18	64	Majorca	s	17	63	Stockholm	s	10	50
Biarritz	s	15	59	Geneva	c	8	46	Malaga	s	17	63	Toronto	s	-6	21
Birmghm	s	8	46	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malta	s	21	70	Venice	c	16	61
Bristol	c	9	48	Guernsey	f	11	52	Manchstr	c	7	45	Vienna	s	22	72
Brussels	c	11	52	Helsinki	s	1	34	Milan	f	24	75	Warsaw	s	11	52
Budapest	s	21	70	Innsbruck	r	21	70	Montreal	c	1	34	Zurich	s	12	54

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 17; Belgium, Bfr 15; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, Dkr 3; Finland, Mk 3.00; France, Frs 3; Germany, Dm 2; Greece, Dr 30; Holland, Dfl 2.50; Italy, Lire 500; Luxembourg, Lux Fr 15; Madeira, Esc 10.00; Malta, 9c; Norway, Kr 4.30; Portugal, Esc 10.00; Spain, Pes 40; Sweden, Skr 4.00; Switzerland, Sfr 3.00; USA, Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 20.

Equal-pay ruling for woman in betting shop

By a Staff Reporter

Women are more likely to be able to obtain security-type jobs as a result of a ruling by the Employment Appeal Tribunal yesterday. It decided that a female counter attendant at a bookmaker's shop should be paid the same rate as her male colleague despite the employers' contention that the man had additional "protective" duties.

Miss Sandra Shields was employed by E. Coomes (Holdings) at a betting-shop in Sussex Street, south-east London, one of 90 retail outlets owned by the company. She was paid 92p an hour while her colleague, Mr Rolls, who was doing the same kind of work, was paid £1.06 an hour.

Coomes said the Sussex Street shop was among nine premises where they expected "trouble". Mr Rolls's job included being there as a deterrent to potential rowdy customers.

Giving judgment, Mr Justice Bristow, presiding, said that Mr Rolls was required to perform his function as protector and deterrent simply because he was a man, not because he was specially trained.

US Government is relieved by the result

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 24

A wave of relief passed through officials in Washington at the survival of Mr Callaghan's Government. The Carter Administration, having just "invested" a great deal of effort and attention in Mr Callaghan's visit, was caught off balance and dismayed at the sudden eruption of the confidence vote. It feared that preparations for the May 7 "Downing Street" economic summit might go awry.

No particular brief is held for Mr Callaghan or against Mrs Thatcher; it is simply that governments, especially new ones like Mr Carter's, prefer dealing with governments they know.

It has also been something of a shock to officials to realize that Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, who quickly gained respect in Washington, was considered vulnerable to a general election.

The Westminster wobbles are likely to cause the new men in Washington to be rather wary over the British Government's course and to pay more attention to Mrs Thatcher's proposals.

Climber's body found

The body of Vivien Lorraine Fairfield, aged 17, of Hull, who fell while climbing Ben Nevis, on Wednesday, was found yesterday.

Oxford today

Peter Wilby discusses the present state of Oxford University in a four-page survey in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today. Richard Hoggart describes the changed atmosphere in universities compared with the 1960s, and Charles Clarke replies to Ralf Dahrendorf.

The h-form ege instinc ansion that u ed compo

er Godfrey

pansion of sixth-form o provide an economic lucationally flexible e to schooling for those and one that befitted nse of maturity was Mr Oakes, Minister at the Department of n and Science, at esterday.

ssing the annual con- of the Headmasters' on, he hinted that al- he decision on whether nd sixth-form colleges be made by local es they would be en- I to do so by the ent, with the possibility financial incentives.

akes suggested that, in sence of increased ent spending on educa- sources for the 16-to-19 oup could be more form deployed. It takes form population of about red A-level students to 16 subjects, which is the least pupils should led to expect", he said. maintained that few met that criterion, s a sixth-form college pool teaching and s from several institu- give broader scope.

ough existing sixth forms enough to provide edu- l variety were an asset, ones drained a dispro- rate amount of resources. u tell me of a small sixth offering adequate facili- then it must be func- at the expense of the f the school."

Oakes pointed out that xth form colleges had d, each with an average re than four hundred stu- since the first was estab- 10 years ago, 17 others een approved. He thought ate of growth reflected the er educational interest the 16-plus age group, he said, would grow at least 1982, and its wish entify with a more adult ution.

e sixth-former might now out of place at school. n if the rules are less us for him in the sixth he still sees an organiza- founded on the reception are of 11 or 12-year olds."

A-level results achieved me colleges were compar- to those of schools. He aged opportunities of ex- ing courses with a voca- bias for the 16-to-19 age at tertiary and further tion colleges.

Oakes parried questions the effects on teachers' le and academic achieve- s of removing the sixth from school and of the ive cost of educating a former at school or ge.

Diverse Catholic views on many issues

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Roman Catholic community in Britain is almost unanimous in its opposition to abortion, according to a survey of readers of two Roman Catholic newspapers published yesterday. Only 6 per cent of readers of the *Catholic Herald* and 4 per cent of readers of the *Scottish Catholic Observer* stated that they did not support the church's anti-abortion campaign because they did not agree with it.

The survey revealed a diversity of opinion in the church on almost every issue except abortion. An overall majority of readers of the *Catholic Herald* (58 per cent) said they did not think the church was doing enough about Northern Ireland, while only 13 per cent were satisfied.

Nearly half those responding to the survey thought there was not enough lay participation in the affairs of the church, slightly more than those who felt there was enough or too much. Fifty-six per cent were against allowing priests to marry, or married men to become priests.

The survey was conducted by the *Catholic Herald* and Gallup Poll in the three newspapers in the group, the *Herald*, the *Observer*, and the *Catholic Standard* of Dublin. The response, nearly 20,000 replies, was described by Gallup as "staggering" for a newspaper poll.

A much smaller random poll was conducted at the same time, and the difference indicates that *Catholic Herald* readers are more middle-class, better educated, and more to the right politically than the Roman Catholic community at large.

The random survey found that only 38 per cent of those describing themselves as Roman Catholics had been to church in the preceding seven days, while 36 per cent last went more than a year ago. Nearly half the latter acknowledged that they were no longer "in practice" Roman Catholics.

The plea for greater participation in church life is not an indication of a general progressiveness among most *Catholic Herald* readers, who in fact opposed recent changes in the Roman Catholic Church to a markedly greater extent than the random sample. The same people appear to have adjusted their own habits of religious behaviour, however, as the survey indicates a decline in weekly or monthly attendance at confession, with two thirds attending fewer than about three times a year. In Scotland and Ireland half the respondents maintained the custom of attending confession once a month.

Additional questions in the Irish survey indicated that opinion in the church was about two to one against changing Irish law to legalize the sale of contraceptives or to allow divorce.

Of Roman Catholics in the three countries, the Irish were most in favour of the new Mass in English, and the English were most in favour of having an option of the new Mass or the old Tridentine rite. A quarter of the random sample, and 14 per cent of *Catholic Herald* readers, would prefer the Tridentine-rite Mass if they had the chance.

While 51 per cent of *Catholic Herald* readers vote Conservative, the random survey found that Labour still holds its traditional first place in the Roman Catholic community at large, leading the Conservatives 38 per cent to 34.

Ex-Yard man agrees there was corruption in squad

Alfred Moody, a former senior Scotland Yard officer, told the police bribery trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he was now satisfied there was corruption on a substantial scale in the obscene publications squad, but he did not know of it at the time.

Mr Moody, aged 51, a retired detective chief superintendent, and former head of the squad, who has pleaded not guilty to seven charges alleging that he accepted bribes totalling £24,945 from pornographers as an inducement or reward for showing favour, was being cross-examined by Mr David Tudor Price, for the Crown.

He said his total service in the squad was three years, spread over two periods between 1965 and 1970.

Mr Tudor Price asked: "Are you entirely satisfied that corruption existed on the squad?" Mr Moody replied: "I am satisfied, having heard the evidence, that there was some corruption on the squad."

In reply to Mr Justice Mars-Jones, he said he accepted that there was corruption on a substantial scale.

Mr Moody said he had to accept evidence by Det Inspector Woolacott that the latter had received corrupt payments almost every week while with the squad.

Mr Moody denied that he received £3,000 to enable pornographic bookshops to be opened up in three parts of Soho. Asked whether pornographers were probably able to make a lot of money because they got help from the police, he replied: "On the evidence as presented I must agree, but I stress I do not accept the evidence."

A pig being introduced to a group of visiting children at Hayes Hill Farm, Waltham Abbey, Essex. The farm, which opens officially tomorrow, is the latest addition to Lee Valley Regional Park. It will be open every weekend from April to September.

Piano concerto to make plants grow quicker

From Pearce Wright
Science Editor
Aberdeen

An opportunity will be available shortly to examine the results of a research group insisting that lush green plants for the kitchen and animal feeds can be grown easily throughout the year: moreover the crops yield up to 70 times more a year than traditional horticulture and agriculture.

Since such an achievement would, on the face of it, point the way to solving the world's food shortage, the first trickle of information on this work has aroused interest among groups as diverse as food and agricultural advisers to the Middle East and African countries, industrial groups such as the agrochemical sides of Gulf Oil and Ciba-Geigy, and overseas investment groups such as Lonrho.

Their appetites have been whetted by the progress of Dr Z. Charnoe, an American biophysicist, and Mr James Ingleby and Mr David James-Duff, on whose land in Banff experiments have been made.

Dr Charnoe will be elaborating on some of this work next month to a meeting at Imperial College, London, of the Acoustical Society, a professional organization of some of the most distinguished physicists and mathematicians in Britain, yet scarcely an obvious group to be riveted by the techniques for growing better tomatoes, lettuces, barley or potatoes in yields that are so much higher than by present methods.

The methods for increasing the fertility of seeds and the growth rates of plants include the use of sound waves to stimulate the metabolic processes of various varieties. The notion of composing a piano concerto to be played to plants is, to say the least, an eccentric proposition. Yet Dr Charnoe uses just such a composition to demonstrate his method for triggering early germination and showing that seeds of differing varieties respond to different sound frequencies. If the idea was based only on some eccentric notion, a meeting with such a technically qualified group as the Acoustical Society would be sheer folly.

The response of seeds to germination has been measured by elaborate electronic equipment as they undergo bombardment by sound and other possible stimulants.

Those processes have produced, for instance, a way of growing tomato plants that, in their fourth year of growth, yield at given notice ripe fruit on any individual truss.

Much of Dr Charnoe's method rests on hydroponics, that method of soilless culture in which water, minerals and carbon dioxide are fed under controlled conditions to plants.

Part of the new process called ecoculture involves better glazing systems in greenhouses to aid photosynthesis and the response of the enzyme phytochrome, which is so important in controlling growth.

Virus link in deaths of 15 old people

From Our Correspondent
Whitley Bay

Fifteen old people have died after being affected by a virus, at present unidentified, at a council home at Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear. The possibility that 12 deaths within eight days at a second home three miles away were also caused by the virus is being investigated.

At the Earsdon Grange home, West Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, which has accommodation for 65 residents, two deaths on Wednesday brought the total since March 5 to 15, nine women and six men. Last month at The Willows, Windsor Gardens, North Shields, seven women and five men died between February 10 and 17. The home can accommodate 60.

The two homes are run by North Tyneside Council, and the ages of those who died varied between 66 and 99.

It was confirmed yesterday that in addition to those who have died at Earsdon Grange, nine patients there and five members of the staff are ill.

Mr Sidney Wilkinson, the council's social services director, said that while there was no apparent common cause of death at The Willows the patients who had died at Earsdon Grange and others, including staff who are now ill, were displaying the same symptoms of aching legs, dizziness, diarrhoea and head pains.

Mr. Wilkinson said: "The area pathologist has said that preliminary research shows that the illness is a result of a virus and is not bacterial. But the public health laboratory has been unable to isolate the virus so far."

Asked why the council had not released details of the deaths until pressed for information, he said: "We did not want to create alarm or panic."

New air service

Brymon Airways is to introduce the first through service between Heathrow and St Mary's, Isles of Scilly.

octors' night calls cost alth service £2m

ur Medical Correspondent e cost to the National h Service of fees for night by general practitioners risen from £158,000 in 1967 nore than £2m last year, rding to a report in the sh Medical Journal today. rt of the rise comes from ncrease in the fee from £1 sit in 1967 to £4.60 in 1976, the number of claims being le has also risen steadily. ore 1967 GPs were not paid night visits, which were rded as part of their mal terms of service.

hat year the fees were oduced for calls to patients' nes between 11 pm and 7 and the average number of ts claimed was 4.3 a thous- patients a year. Since then annual rate has risen adily to 10.1 a thousand ients, while the annual number of visits made by each doctor has risen from 10 to 24.

An analysis of the data by the Centre for Studies in Social Policy in London has shown that the visiting rate is higher when doctors transfer their calls to a deputizing service and that the numbers are also higher in areas with a high proportion of patients in social class five. The proportion of the elderly in the population served seems irrelevant.

Part of the explanation of the progressive rise in visiting rates, the report says, may be a steadily increasing use by doctors of deputizing services. Another possibility, but one for which there is no evidence, is that doctors who once did not bother to claim their fees may now be more ready to do so.

Source: *British Medical Journal*, March 26, p. 827.

Security call to organizers of point-to-point

By a Staff Reporter

Pointo-to-point organizers have been warned to tighten security after vandalism in recent months which has caused more than £20,000 damage to meetings and hunts. The warning was sent out yesterday by Mr James Wetherby, the Jockey Club's controller of pointo-to-points.

Mr Marcus Kimball, Conservative MP for Gainsborough and chairman of the British Field Sports Society, said yesterday: "Last Saturday vandals totally destroyed the tentage and pulled apart two fences on the Warwickshire point-to-point course at Mollington. The meeting was abandoned and the cost was estimated at £6,000."

He pointed to "the escalation of needless violence and aggression" some of it associated with hunts as well as racing.

ribunals want ider range consultation

wider range of organiza- s should be consulted about ointments of members of ustrial tribunals, the Council Tribunals says in its ual report, published yester-

n particular, the council, the ervisory body for all kinds of unals, is concerned that the ployees' representatives on ustrial tribunals should not chosen after consultation h only one body, the TUC. It gs to consult other organi- ons as well.

t points out that the repre- ntatives of employers are pointed after extended con- tations with six or seven lies, of which the Confedera- n of British Industy is one.

nual Report of the Council on bunals, 1975-76 (Stationery ice, 85p).

Cigarettes with tobacco substitutes likely soon

By Our Social Policy Correspondent

The Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health meets today to discuss final details of the tobacco companies' plans for introducing tobacco substitutes into cigarettes.

Approval is expected very soon, and cigarettes containing a mixture of about two thirds natural tobacco and one third substitute are likely to come on the market within a few months.

Dr Robert Hunter, the committee chairman, has made clear that the cellulose-based synthetic materials will not be endorsed as "safe", however, or even healthier than others.

Their use will be permitted on the basis that existing evidence suggests they may produce fewer harmful substances than some forms of natural tobacco.

Testing has mainly been confined to animals during the years of their development, but long-term monitoring of the effects on humans will be carried out.

Imperial Tobacco, Carreras-Rothmans and Gallahers have an interest in the new materials, though Carreras-Rothmans has indicated that its interest has cooled in recent months. Tobacco-substitute cigarettes have met very limited success in Switzerland and West Germany, and new methods of growing and treating tobacco are making it possible to reduce greatly the harmful constituents in ordinary cigarettes.

Imperial, however, has with ICI invested £20m in its New Smoking Material.

Film and television awards for 1976

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts' 1976 awards were presented by Princess Anne at the Wembley Conference Centre last night. The academy's fellowship award was to Sir Denis Forman. The other winners are:

FILM: Best film: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest", Saul Zaentz and Michael Douglas. Best direction: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" Milos Forman. Best short factual film: "The End of the Road", John Armstrong. Best specialized film: "Hydraulics", Anthony Searle. Robert Flaherty Award best feature-length documentary: "Dona Canadinnes", Albert Kish.

Performance awards: Best Actress: Louise Fletcher, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest". Best supporting actress: Jodie Foster, "Bugsy Malone". Best Actor: Jack Nicholson, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest". Best supporting actor: Richard Dourif, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest".

Anthony Asquith Memorial Award for best original music for a film: "Taxi Driver", the late Bernard Herrmann. Craft Awards: Best screenplay: "Bugsy Malone", Alan Parker. Best cinematography: "Picnic at Hanging Rock", Russell Boyd. Best production design/art direction: "Bugsy Malone", Geoffrey Kirkland. Best costume design: "Die Marquise Von O", Moidele Bickel. Best film editing: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest", Richard Chew, Lynzee Klingman, Sheldon Kahn. Best soundtrack: "Bugsy Malone", Les Wiggins, Clive Winter, Ken Barker.

TELEVISION: Production and direction awards: Best single play: "Bar Mitzvah Boy", Michael Tuchner. Best drama series/serial: "Rock Follies", Andrew Brown. Best factual programme: "The Rescue" ("Sailor"), John Purdie. Best factual series: "Sailor", John Purdie/Roger Mills. Best light entertainment programme: "The Muppet Show", production team. Best situation comedy: "Porridge", "Long Special Only", Sydney Lotterby. Best specialized programme: "On the Move", David Hargreaves. Best outside broadcast: 1976 FA Cup Final (BBC), production team. Craft award: Best design: Tim Harvey, "I Claudius".

Performance awards: Best actor: Derek Jacobi, "I Claudius". Best actress: Sian Phillips, "I Claudius"/"How Green was my Valley". Best light entertainment performance: Penelope Keith, "The Good Life". Desmond Davis award for outstanding creative contribution to television: Bill Ward.

Richard Dimbleby award for most important personal contribution on screen in factual television: Frank Bough.

Writers award: Jack Rosenthal.

Technical craft award and travel bursary by London Weekend Television: Mike Billings, sound dubbing editor. Pam Tessler, make-up artist.

Best foreign programme: "Edvard Munch", Peter Watkins.

Shell International Award (for most effective contribution to understanding of trade and industry): Michael Blakstad, for "The Risk Business".

Rediffusion Star Awards: Schools' Programmes, Flame of Knowledge Award: "Scene", Andrée Molyneaux. Children's entertainment, Harlequin award, documentary factual: "John Craven's Newsround", Jill Roach. Children's entertainment, Harlequin award, drama/light entertainment: "Multi-Coloured Swap Shop", Rosemary Gill.

THE ANNAN REPORT

Broadcasting White Paper planned for later this year

By Peter Hennessy

The Government is planning to publish a White Paper on the future of broadcasting in December as a preliminary to legislation early in 1978.

The timetable depends on the Government's survival, but whatever happens legislation will be needed before July 31, 1979, when the BBC's charter and the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act both expire.

Mr Rees, Home Secretary, has invited individuals and organizations to submit comments on the Annan report by July 1. The Cabinet's home affairs committee, under his chairmanship, will then consider the shape and content of a White Paper in October and November, and the full Cabinet will finally decide early in December.

The future of the proposed fourth television channel, which Lord Annan's committee recommended should be run by an open broadcasting authority, will be of primary concern to ministers. The independent television companies are expected to mount a powerful lobby for it to be included in their orbit.

The report's proposal for a public inquiry board for broadcasting will be examined closely in Whitehall. While the need to make broadcasters more open and accountable is conceded wholeheartedly there is some doubt that such a board is the best mechanism.

Regular public hearings, with a "mini-Annan" every seven years, is how the Annan solution is interpreted. Whether there would be enough work for a running audit of that kind, or whether Parliament should be involved through a select committee are the kinds of questions that Whitehall will consider before the autumn.

Some ministers, probably a minority, are likely to challenge Annan's recommendation against a broadcasting commission to represent the views of political parties and pressure groups. They will probably argue for a greater degree of public participation in broadcasting at every level.

Whatever the Cabinet decides, the Home Office is almost certain to remain the department responsible for broadcasting. When the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was wound up in 1974 consideration was given to putting responsibility for broadcasting into the Department of Education or the Department of the Environment. Sir Harold Wilson decided that neither was suitable. While broadcasting imposed a light administrative burden, its political sensitivity required a senior minister with political "clout", like the Home Secretary, to handle it.

The Annan committee's fear that the Home Office might adopt the attitude of a censor in a less liberal climate than the present is seen in Whitehall as being a trifle overdone. If government interference increased it would be only in conditions of grave national emergency and it would affect both authorities equally, wherever the ministerial responsibility lay.

New TV and local radio bodies are the main proposals

By Kenneth Gosling

The Committee on the Future of Broadcasting published its report yesterday. The document cost £315,000 to prepare, runs to more than 500 pages and 174 recommendations, and has been two and a half years in the making.

Its main recommendations are broadly those disclosed at the weekend: that there should be an open broadcasting authority to take responsibility for the fourth television channel, a local broadcasting authority to take over all local radio services after 1979, a public inquiry board, holding hearings every seven years, and a broadcasting complaints commission.

The report is unanimous, with notes of dissent on only five of the recommendations.

Apart from the hiving off of all local radio services from the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority, the report recommends no other structural changes in the BBC or IBA or any change in the BBC's licence-fee system of financing.

It recognizes that the recommendation on the fourth television channel will not be welcomed in some quarters. It says: "ITV, who hoped to be given the whole loaf, are likely to complain vigorously that their appetite for expansion is not likely to be satisfied by being thrown a crust. It is in fact a piece of rich cake that they are being offered; but we hardly expect them to see it that way."

It was not lack of confidence in ITV to deliver the goods, the report says, that had led to that conclusion. "It is simply that in our belief an ITV 2 will result in worse television services than we have now because the BBC and ITV will engage in a self-destructive battle for the ratings."

The new channel, the report says, should encourage productions that say something new in new ways. It should carry educational programmes, including those for the Open University, programmes made by individual companies, including Independent Television News, and programmes from a variety of independent producers, some commissioned by the new authority.

Local radio services controlled by the local broadcasting authority should be provided by organizations under fixed-term contracts to the authority, first of seven years and then five years. Advertising revenue should provide the main source of income.

The report says the limits on the BBC's borrowing powers for capital and current expenditure should be raised to take account of inflation. Concessionary licences for old age pensioners and others should not be introduced, and the concessionary licence for residents in some old people's homes should be phased out.

Another recommendation is that party political broadcasts need not be transmitted, as at present, simultaneously on all television channels except during general election campaigns.

Extracts from the report follow:

The role of broadcasting: We do not agree with those who have suggested that concern for good programmes is somehow misconceived and that the real issue is the control of broadcasting. We regard programmes as unquestionably the most important, and arguably the only test of any broadcasting system. It is one of the achievements of British broadcasting that programmes are regarded as hand-made products, produced by individual craftsmen. The public expect programmes of high quality as a normal everyday service.

Traditionally the state has set broadcasters their objectives. Their present role is to provide entertainment, information and education for large audiences. We would add to these a further objective, namely enrichment. To enlarge people's interests, to convey to them new choices and possibilities in life, this is what broadcasting ought to try to achieve. Programmes should create delight and insight.

The first requirement is flexibility. The present duopoly under which all programmes broadcast are the responsibility of the BBC or the IBA has already shown signs of becoming a straitjacket and inhibiting the development of new services. This has already occurred with local radio. People complain that the duopoly resembles a feud between the Montagus and Capulets, in which the interest and the needs of the public are regarded as of less importance than the interests and needs of the BBC and the IBA.

If all new services are brought within the duopoly new forms of broadcasting would be retarded and restricted. During the next 15 years it will be possible to bring many new services into operation. A fourth television service can be provided almost immediately and a further television service could be provided when the present black-and-white services are phased out in the early 1980s. Later on there could be five services via satellite. There is the possibility of a multiplicity of services by cable.

For radio, there could be more local radio stations immediately and a fourth national service could be provided on VHF in a few years' time. The number of radio services could practically be doubled if most services were not broadcast on both VHF and MF, but this depends on whether the public would be prepared to buy and use VHF radio sets.

The pace of development of new services will depend largely on the amount of money available for broadcasting. This is difficult to predict. For similar reasons it seems unlikely that the nature of broadcasting will be revolutionized by technical change before the early 1990s, for example by the use of video-recording equipment in the home. During this time patterns of work and leisure will alter. There are likely to be proportionately more older people and fewer children. More people will be better educated and their demands on the broadcasting services will be different. So broadcasting needs to be organized as flexibly as possible to adapt to social and technical change.

The broadcasting union urged that half the members of the broadcasting authorities should be representatives of the broadcasting unions. But to have half the members of authorities answerable to people working in the industry would be to make the authorities as accountable to them as to the elected representatives of over 50 million people, assembled in the House of Commons. There is another factor; broadcasting is one of the main sources of news in this country. It is not possible to make a distinction between management problems and editorial problems and many people would see worker participation in the authorities as a major threat to the broadcasters' editorial independence. Similarly it would be difficult to have the members nominated by or elected from representative groups. This would lead to broadcasting services being considered in terms of the interests of these selected groups rather than of the interests of the public as a whole.

Complaints of misrepresentation or unjust or unfair treatment in broadcasting programmes against all authorities should be considered by an independent complaints commission. The cost of the commission should be borne by the authorities.

Public inquiry board: A public inquiry board for broadcasting should be set up to be responsible in the course of holding public hearings in taking a general view of broadcasting services in the public interest. The main instrument of doing so would be public hearings every seven years on the way each broadcasting authority had discharged its responsibility. In reporting their findings, the board would take account of the remit given to each authority in relation to the totality of broadcasting services offered to the public and in this way people would have an opportunity to express their views about the performance of each authority. The board would report their findings of the public's view of the services to the Home Secretary to be laid before Parliament.

The board would be independent of both Government and the broadcasting authorities. It would be small: a chairman and four other part-time members, appointed by the minister responsible for broadcasting. It would be assisted by a small secretariat responsible solely to the board. We estimate the board's budget would be of the order of £150,000 a year.

Pattern for the future: Many people are disenchanted with various aspects of the present competition between the BBC and the IBA. For example, they complain of scheduling clashes. On the other hand competition between the BBC and ITV has raised the standard of programmes for both. Competition in excellence is admirable. But competition solely to gain audiences has less desirable effects.

Broadcasting in the United States strongly suggests two conclusions. The first is that virtually unrestricted competition between three broadcasting networks narrows the range of programmes. The second is that competition for the same source of finance lowers programming standards and transfers power to the financier. Competition between the broadcasting authorities cannot be eliminated. It is not merely advertisers but the broadcasters themselves who want large audiences and the peak-time showing of their programmes. We want more cooperation between the broadcasting authorities and we are recommending structures which we think will help mitigate the ill effects of competition.

The BBC should continue to be the national instrument of broadcasting in the United Kingdom. Ten members of the committee recommend that it should provide two national television services, four national radio services and the external service. Six members of the committee believe that there should be two separate corporations, one providing two television services and the other the national radio services and the external services. All but three members of the committee consider that the BBC should cease to provide local radio services.

The BBC should make a greater effort to ascertain what is and is not regarded as generally acceptable by their audiences for the different services at different times of the day.

Case for two corporations: Those members of the committee who considered the BBC should be divided into separate television and radio corporations believe that most of the criticisms and complaints of the BBC, and the BBC's own internal friction and congestion, are the consequences of the corporation's unitary control over a large span of radio and television frequencies. This is particularly a matter of concern, when other sources of news are used by the audiences in different ways, meet different needs and demand different production approaches and express a different attitude towards broadcasting. These differences are increasing and radio and television need each to develop separately in their own way and at their own pace.

The BBC's radio and television services are already to a large extent managed separately. Division is unlikely to increase costs or diminish the ability of public service broadcasting to resist outside pressures. The change should not be seen as a punitive act. Two corporations would be good for the BBC and for those who work in it as well as for the informed and pluralistic democracy which they serve.

Majority view: The other 10 members of the committee do not accept these conclusions. They believe the number of the BBC's services, and the size of the organization which supports them, give the BBC that influential place in the life of the country, which is the best guarantee of its independence. There is a need to speak up for editorial independence today and the BBC is large enough to do so effectively.

If radio were divided from television the Government would have to decide how much of the licence fee would go to each service and this would considerably increase risk of government interference in the running of the services. The BBC, with 26,000 staff, is not too large to be managed efficiently. There are positive advantages in the size of the BBC; it produces economies of scale both in programming and in the supporting services. There would be increased duplication of functions if the BBC were divided.

BBC management: Changes are needed in the way the BBC is managed. The BBC must accept that the governors are there to govern. They are not ignorant amateurs. They represent the public interest. The governors should be responsible for the strategic decisions. There should be more joint meetings between the board of governors and the board of management to discuss and decide policy issues. The board of management should not merely advise the director-general, it should take collective responsibility for the management of the BBC.

Communications within the BBC should be improved so that there is a better understanding of the corporation's policies. For example, there should be regular non-operational meetings at different levels to explain the past, review the present and discuss the future. But decisions on individual programmes should not be made by committees. They should continue to be made so far as possible by the producer of each programme, or by the head of his department, the head of his service or the director-general. There should be a chain of confidence between the director-general and the individual producer.

Independent television: The regional output of ITV is the justification for its federal structure. All the companies should regard the provision of programmes for their region as their main obligation. Although the service should include high quality networked programmes, it should be primarily a regional television service. This should be reflected by changing the name of the authority to the Regional Television Authority.

There is no doubt that ITV, while remaining popular, has improved in quality during the past 12 years. The network provides entertainment and excitement and ITV companies now produce programmes which in prestige and intrinsic worth in a particular range are the equal of the BBC's output. On the other hand much of ITV's output seems settled in well worn grooves, safe, stereotyped and routine in its production. Scheduling is often apprehensive, rather than daring.

The best of ITV's regional output, particularly that from the larger regional companies, is very good. But, while some network companies are alive to their regional responsibilities, others do not give due attention to their regional programming. There is a weakness in some regional news coverage by its failure to report local issues adequately.

ITV franchises: A public hearing should form part of the IBA's selection procedure for programme contractors and should be conducted in the area in which the franchise would be held. Contracts should normally be awarded for a period of seven years. A system of rolling contracts should not be introduced, since this would entrench the existing companies' position.

Local broadcasting authority: A local broadcasting authority should be set up to take responsibility for all local radio services and for other local broadcasting services, including cable television. Local radio would have mixed sources of finance, including advertising.

At present two services of local radio, run by the BBC and the IBA, are operating side by side and neither gives coverage throughout the country. There are insufficient frequencies for both the BBC and IBA local radio services to be extended if they are to be received by over 90 per cent of the population of the United Kingdom, but unless there are plans to make local radio available more widely governments will be faced with intolerable pressures. If local radio provides a service people want, all localities eventually should be able to opt for it.

The new authority's first task should be to draw up a plan to provide at least one service of local radio for most people in the United Kingdom. This plan should be based on community of interest. In some areas an entire conurbation may be the right area to be covered by one station; in others a borough or a district with a very limited geographical coverage might be more appropriate. Other stations might cover an entire county.

Pay television: We are not persuaded that pay television of itself generates new programmes; it distributes material from broadcasting organizations, feature films and some live sport. It is therefore a ravenous parasite. Pay television would not increase programme services to people living in areas without cable services or to those who could not afford the increased subscription. For them there would be no increase in choice.

If pay television were commercially successful there could well be less choice in the long run for most viewers, since the pay television organizations might be able to afford to buy exclusive rights to some events which are now broadcast generally by the BBC or the IBA.

The local broadcasting authority should take responsibility for programmes provided by cable, other than those of the BBC and the IBA. Cable television should develop primarily as a local community service. After the turn of the century there may be a national cable network and at that stage new forms of organization will have to be considered. At present it looks to us as if the responsibility for programme content will be divorced from responsibility for providing the cable network. The next 25 years should be used to build up experience which suggests what form the new organizational arrangements should take.

News and current affairs: A clear distinction between news and current affairs programmes should be maintained but the scope of news should be redefined to include the reporting of an event, the reporting of comments on that event and an accompanying analysis of the background to that event. There must still be current affairs programmes which dispassionately present all sides of an issue and which scrutinize the views expressed, but the requirement for due impartiality should not preclude committed public affairs programmes from having a recognized place in the broadcasting outlets. To make such programmes there will be groups of programme makers working for the broadcasting organizations whose commitment is well known.

It is the task of the authority to observe due impartiality, and of the producer to present the truth of the matter as he sees it, but not to be a naive propagandist. The provision of some recognizably committed programmes will provide a better and livelier service of public affairs broadcasting.

In Northern Ireland, broadcasters cannot be impartial about activities of illicit organizations. Nevertheless, these organizations are a political force in Northern Ireland and it would be unrealistic not to take account of them. Yet terrorism feeds off publicity and there is no reason to abet terrorists by giving additional publicity. The decision whether to permit appearances by members of illegal organizations must remain with the broadcasting organizations but be taken at the highest levels.

Party political broadcasting: It is fashionable to knock party political broadcasts. It is part of a long tradition in this country of suspicion of party propaganda, often of politicians themselves. It would do ill to encourage this scepticism. We do not defend the quality or effectiveness of party political broadcasts as they are presently written and produced, but the major political parties should have direct access to radio and television time.

We recommend that party political broadcasts need not be transmitted simultaneously on all television channels except during general election campaigns. Local radio stations should reflect the political life of their localities by carrying some party political broadcasts. In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland the main United Kingdom parties could be given additional allocation of time, the national parties could have some opportunity to broadcast to the United Kingdom as a whole.

Educational broadcasting: Although it seems likely that some educational broadcasts are effective at catching and maintaining a learner's interest, the broadcasters must themselves try to establish more objective and consistent criteria for assessing the effectiveness of their broadcasts.

Religious broadcasting: From the evidence we received on religious broadcasting we found it easier to draw plans for a new Tower of Babel than for a new Jerusalem. The broadcasting authorities should consider whether the quality of religious broadcasting would be better served by widening the range of expertise in their religious departments or by spreading responsibility for religious programmes to other production departments, while ensuring that specifically religious services continue to be broadcast. Each authority should also appoint its own religious advisory committee.

The arts: We have strong doubts about whether the BBC's charter should be interpreted as requiring it to maintain its commitments to the continued employment of some of the existing musical bodies which it supports. In times of financial stringency the BBC must feel free to make cuts where it judges that it will least affect its programmes, not simply in places where it cannot affect musicians.

Films: It is in the interests of the public, as well as of the independent broadcasters, that the BBC and ITV should continue to produce the bulk of their programmes within their own organizations. But a compulsory ban or quota should not be placed on foreign imports or on the use of material from independent production companies in this country. With a changing film industry the number of cinema films suitable for television showing is decreasing and their costs are increasing.

The BBC and ITV will come more to rely on films made specially for television, often for America. Some of these programmes are excellent, but many are footling and could be replaced by British productions at great expense but otherwise without loss to the quality of the service. The BBC and ITV should show more willingness to buy programmes and to commission independent producers.

We do not believe that the reinvention of the British film industry will come through reliance on television to support it in old age. The funding of the film industry should not be dependent on the size of the television levy, the time-ban on televising cinema films, and the money paid for televising a film is a matter for negotiation and discussion between the parties involved. But broadcasting organizations should want to make payments to the film industry in order to benefit from the output of the creative talents engaged in film-making in this country. We therefore welcome the financial support for film-making already given or promised by the BBC and by the ITV companies.

Sports: The broadcasting authorities should not jointly televise the same event with the same picture but should agree to share the coverage of such events.

Broadcasting in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: If our proposals on local radio are adopted, people in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be receiving one more BBC radio service than people in England. The extension of the coverage of the BBC's VHF radio services should be carried out as a matter of urgency. In the extension of UHF television coverage, priority to the extent possible should be given to Mid-Wales and to Northern Scotland and the Islands.

BBC Controllers in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland should be given a greater say over the scheduling in their areas of those radio and television channels which include programmes made specially for transmission in the countries. The BBC should allocate money to the national councils in Scotland and Wales for programmes made specifically for transmission in their countries and the councils should decide how to divide this allocation between radio and television.

The members of the committee were: Lord Annan (chairman), Mr Peter Goldman, Professor Hilde Himmelweit, Mr Tom Jackson, Mr Antony Jay, Miss Marghanita Laski, Mrs Hilda Lawrence, Mr Dewi Lewis, Sir James MacTaggart, Mrs Charles Morrison, Mr Hugh Nandy, Mr John Parkes, Mr John Pollock, Professor Geoffrey Sims, Mr Phillip Whitehead, MP, and Sir Marcus Worsley.

Report of the Committee on the Future of Broadcasting (Cmnd 6753; Stationery Office, £7.25).

Lord Annan (second from right) and three members of his committee, Professor Geoffrey Sims, Mr Phillip Whitehead, MP, and Mrs Charles Morrison listening attentively to a question at yesterday's press conference launching their report on the future of broadcasting in Britain.

Concern over sex, violence and bad language

Much of the evidence on programme standards came from churches, schools and those who stressed the importance of improving moral standards in society. They considered there was too much sex, violence and bad language in programmes. Throughout many submissions ran the theme that broadcasting was failing to reflect and endorse the values to which society should conform.

Public opinion surveys show that people have been becoming more concerned about violence in television, and analyses of violence on television show that violence is frequent. We do not accept, nor does research support the view, that the viewing of violence has a cathartic effect. The reverse is more often the case: violence on the screen arouses in certain individuals passions which in certain circumstances do harm. The available research suggests that television can have an impact in matters where people's attitudes and values are as yet unformed.

How strong this influence is varies with the issue and the individual. It seems to be strongest in the case of the young and in people who do not have many other sources of information or influence. Children are particularly vulnerable and those most at risk, the less able, the more disadvantaged and those with fewest personal resources are also the heaviest viewers. Such children may become more ready to accept violence as an effective way of solving problems. Their inhibitions against the use of violence may lessen. Other children can also be upset by what they see and can be given a misleading or damaging impression of the society in which they live. It is beyond conjecture that programme standards matter to the public and therefore the broadcasters have a case to answer.

The broadcasters accept that they have a responsibility for programme standards and have issued codes and notes of guidance to their producers. These are admirable but they are sometimes ignored. Schedules and some producers do not show sufficient understanding about the kinds of violent behaviour children find harmful and disturbing. On some days the hour between 9 and 10 pm is one of the most violent on British television, and it is on hour when many children will still be watching.

We recommend that broadcasting authorities should monitor the amount of violence in their programmes. The British Board of Film Censors' classification should be announced before a cinema film is shown on television. If IBA experiments on the use of a warning symbol are well received it should be extended.

Cautious welcome by BBC

The recommendation that any fourth television network should be run by an open broadcasting authority was given a "general welcome in principle" by the BBC's governors yesterday.

A statement issued after "a first reading" of the Annan report said the governors had found much to welcome, but they had grave reservations about a philosophy that appeared to seek to confine the BBC primarily to national functions.

"In particular", their statement said, "we disagree with the proposals for local radio and those that seek to reduce significantly our regional television activities. We do not believe that the important and successful role of BBC local radio stations can be maintained under the committee's suggestions. We fear that a BBC that ceased to be active within the English regions would lose a significant part of its vitality."

The governors were happy, however, that the committee had endorsed the BBC's independence and the licence-fee system and that most of its members favoured a unified BBC. "These factors are of fundamental importance in protecting the editorial independence of the BBC."

They also welcomed the committee's endorsement of a BBC proposal that a complaints commission, on the lines of that already established by the corporation, should be established to cover all broadcasting.

Many of the other recommendations and comments, particularly those leading to greater public accountability, were most interesting and called for very serious and careful consideration, the governors said. They would contribute to healthy debate about the future of broadcasting.

Referring to the report's criticism of some aspects of BBC management and programming, the governors said: "Some of these matters, of course, have already been the subject of extensive internal discussion, and changes have been going on for some time. In particular, all matters of programme standards are continually being argued throughout the BBC. We shall take a fresh look at them and the points made in the Annan report will become an important factor in these continuing discussions."

The BBC statement added that the governors wholeheartedly agreed with the committee's statement that it regarded the programmes as "unquestionably the most important, and arguably the only, test of any broadcasting system". Any broadcasting service must be judged by the quality of its programmes.

They added that when they had had time to digest the report they would be happy to enter into wide and thoughtful public debate on the important issues raised.

'Patchwork' proposal upsets ITV

The Independent Television Companies' Association (Itca) said yesterday that the open broadcasting scheme appeared to be "a patchwork, rather than a network", and, as the Annan committee had admitted, it was unlikely, for economic reasons, to be launched in the predictable future.

The association said the fourth-channel recommendation seemed to have been motivated by fears about the effects on programme standards of increased ITV-BBC competition. "Yet the committee itself acknowledges that competition between the two services has raised standards, not lowered them", a statement said.

It rejected absolutely the contention that to continue the present system would intensify the wrong sort of competition between the BBC and ITV. "So long as the total ITV audience is large enough it is of no importance that one of the two channels attracts only a small part of it."

For the rest, the report reflected the good intentions of the committee, but too many of the recommendations appeared to be impracticable and some were misconceived, Itca said. It was hard to understand the proposal to change the title of the Independent Broadcasting Authority to the Regional Television Authority when no discernible change in function was proposed.

Referring to the proposal to remove advertisements from children's programmes, Itca said that if the purpose was to shield children from them it would be ineffective. Children from four to nine years watched only about 1.8 hour of children's programmes out of a total of 12.7 viewing hours a week, and those aged between 10 and 15 watched 1.5 hour out of a total of 13.4.

Sir Brian Young, director-general of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said that if the report's two cardinal recommendations were followed there would be nothing, "except a few people speaking Welsh", on the fourth channel for years and years, and local radio would come to a standstill for quite a while.

He said there was an illogicality between what the report said about the past and present and what it recommended for the future. It praised the effects of regulated competition, yet all radio competition was to cease. It refused a second commercial channel for fear of competition, when that would plainly be competition for excellence, ITV having the best cards on the serious side according to the committee.

"We have certainly not been roasted, but patted on the back gently and told to grow no farther", Sir Brian said.

The members of the IBA are to make their considered views known to the Home Secretary during the summer after they have had a chance to study the report.

Conservatives against plan to set up third TV body

The Conservative Party is opposed to the proposal to set up an open broadcasting authority, Mr Whitelaw, deputy leader of the party, said yesterday.

"We wish to avoid any further burden being placed on the backs of the taxpayers. We are therefore against increased bureaucracy through the proliferation of new bodies", he said.

Future developments in broadcasting must be based on the independence and integrity of the BBC and the IBA, Mr Whitelaw added. The fourth television channel should be allocated to ITV, with the safeguards proposed by the IBA and the independent companies for open, minority, education and Welsh-language programmes.

Mr Whitelaw, who is also spokesman on home affairs and broadcasting, supported the majority view of the Annan committee that the BBC should not be split, and welcomed the recommendation that there should be no broadcasting council to supervise the existing authorities. There was value, however, in a complaints commission that would look after the interests of the individual.

In the Commons Mr Rees, Home Secretary, invited anyone who wants to put forward a view or who has given evidence to the committee to submit comments on the report by July 1. That, he said, would allow the reactions to be considered before legislation is prepared.

Educationists enthusiastic

By a Staff Reporter

The Open University is predictably enthusiastic about the recommendations to expand its hours on the fourth television channel and an additional VHF radio channel.

Sir Walter Perry, the principal, said yesterday: "The university welcomes the committee's view that those of our programmes more suitable for the general audience should remain on BBC or ITV networks. We very much enjoy our partnership with the BBC and would not wish to see it come to an end."

That initial enthusiasm for the expansion of educational broadcasting and the committee's rejection of confining it to a fourth channel was matched throughout the world of adult and continuing education. Mr Arthur Stock, Director of the National Institute of Adult Education, welcomed the report's advocacy of better research into the effectiveness of educational transmissions.

The report pleased school teachers and educational administrators generally but there were qualifications. The recommendation that local education authorities should participate in broadcasts on the fourth channel was received coldly because of expense.

Fourth channel: Nursery for TV ideas and methods

The fourth television channel should be allocated to an open broadcasting authority, which should operate as a publisher of programme material provided by others.

The IBA and the ITV programme companies wanted the fourth channel to be used for ITV2, so they had increased opportunities to provide a wider range of programmes. Others wanted the channel to be used primarily for educational programmes. Others wanted programmes for minorities. In Wales there was general agreement that the channel should be used there for programmes in the Welsh language. There were also proposals that the channel should be run by an authority or foundation, acting as a publisher of programmes produced by others.

In our view a second ITV service would confirm the duopoly and intensify competition between the BBC and ITV. Although ITV2 might begin by providing programmes from minorities the result of intensified competition would be that fewer programmes for minorities would be provided both by ITV and by the BBC. The proposals of the ITV companies for this channel suggested that the service would be aimed primarily at those most able and most likely to provide themselves with other sorts of entertainment, information and education. ITV2 would not be the best use of the fourth channel though the ITV companies should provide some programmes for it.

A great opportunity would be missed if the fourth channel were seen solely in terms of extending the present range of programmes. The greatest temptation in British television in the next 15 years will be to settle comfortably in the time-honoured pattern of services, methods of production and programming. The fourth channel should be a nursery for new forms and new methods of presenting ideas. It should not be merely an addition to the plurality of outlets but a force for plurality in a deeper sense.

Such a service requires a new authority. The BBC already has sufficient responsibilities for the next decade. If the IBA were to take responsibility for this service it would make it more difficult for the authority to resist pressure from the ITV companies to allow them a considerable share of the peak programming time on a new channel. But the IBA should be responsible for transmission.

The open broadcasting authority (OBA) should not be required to schedule a balanced evening's viewing, in which sport and light entertainment, education, news and current affairs and other types of programmes are shown.

The OBA programmes broadcast should fall into three broad categories: educational programmes, including those for the Open University; programmes made by individual ITV companies, including ITN; and programmes from a variety of independent producers. We attach particular importance to this third category as a force for diversity and new ideas. These programmes could vary from a major theatrical production or sporting event to programmes made by a small group of people with an idea for a programme such as the existing channels do not today accept.

The OBA, by commissioning from independent producers, should guarantee them a place where new ideas for programmes flourish. In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland the programmes should be adapted to the special needs and interests of the people living there.

This variety of programming will be achieved only if the finance for it is drawn from a variety of sources. Sponsored programmes should be allowed on this channel, though on no other. Broadcast time should not be sold, but major industrial and financial companies who now help to finance opera productions or sponsor sporting events should be able to sponsor the television presentation of them.

The Arts Council might wish to collaborate with the OBA to ensure that some of the productions by the companies which receive sizable grants from the council are made available to a wider audience through television. A group of charities might wish to provide programmes for particular audiences, for example, handicapped people. The CBI and TUC could provide programmes of special interest to their members.

The Open University would continue to finance the programmes produced for it and any other educational programmes would probably be financed as part of the country's overall expenditure on educational services. The rest of the programmes would be financed by advertising, which should be grouped in blocks rather than interlaced with the programmes.

The fourth television channel should not be allocated until the nation's economy permits the kind of service we have outlined. This may not be until the 1980s. It should not be given priority over the extension of the coverage of the present services and the maintenance of the quality of the present services. Exceptionally, in view of the special circumstances in Wales, a service should be opened there in Welsh, as soon as the Government can find the necessary finance, and should be operated jointly by the BBC and the IBA until the new authority is established to take responsibility for the service on the fourth channel throughout the United Kingdom.

Leading article, page 15

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HOME NEWS

Some undertakers' profits 'are too high'

By Neville Hodgkinson

Funeral costs in Britain are low compared with other countries but profits are generous or even high for the larger businesses and there is room for a reduction, the Price Commission says in a report published yesterday.

The reduction could probably best be achieved by holding prices steady or reducing prospective increases, it says.

The commission found that a recurring motif in the representations it received from the public was the desire for simple funerals. An octogenarian wrote to it:

When my old carcass back to earth is turned
Surely I have the little privilege earned
To still pursue my usual frugal way
And take the cheapest route;
I know the way.

Some complained that they had been led into unnecessary "extras", though the commission says it has been assured that that is the exception rather than the rule.

It recommends, however, that funeral directors should always give a written estimate and that the set price for a simple, decent funeral should be well displayed.

The commission also recommends that a comprehensive complaints procedure should be established, with a central organization to which customers unable to obtain redress from funeral directors could appeal.

The Government announced in a Commons written reply yesterday that the Director General of Fair Trading is to consider negotiating a code of practice for funeral directors, to cover the commission's recommendations on those points.

Rises in local authority charges, the commission says, are a cause of concern. Most authorities have heavy losses on cemeteries and only small profits, at best, on crematoria.

It says the profits of private cemetery and crematorium companies are in some instances high, and that such companies could reasonably be expected to show restraint in increasing charges. Smaller privately owned businesses on average show little or no profit and coffin manufacturers' profits are very modest.

Finally, it suggests that there might be a useful role in Britain for voluntary memorial societies such as those that have spread in North America. They inform members about funeral costs and procedures and give help in obtaining simple, inexpensive funerals.

The National Association of Funeral Directors welcomed the report as disproving claims of "excessive" profits. It said smaller firms might interpret the study as showing that their profits were too low, and put up their prices as a result.

The commission's recommendations on procedure in customer relations were likely to be agreed by the association, a representative said.

Typical funeral charges in September, 1976, were about £166 for a cremation and £177 for a burial. That would include a veneered chipboard coffin, a hearse, one car for the mourners, bearers, doctors' cremation certificates, crematorium or graveyard charges, church fees, and the funeral director's supervision and attendance.

The commission found that a simple headstone might cost between £70 and £100, the fee for a memorial rose bush was between £6 and £49, and a two-line entry in a Book of Remembrance cost from £2.20 to £14.

Funeral Charges, Price Commission Report No 22 (Stationery Office, 90p).

No agreement on press freedom charter

By a Staff Reporter

Newspaper employers, editors and journalists' trade unions have failed to agree on a charter for the preservation of press freedom, a report published today shows.

The report, submitted to Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, discloses disagreement between the parties who agreed to try to draw up a charter. A number of newspaper managements (including that of *The Times*) and editors declined to take part in the discussions, which started last year after the passage of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Act.

The Act gave them a year to agree to their own charter and, in the event of failure, permitted the Secretary of State to prepare his own charter, which Mr Booth is now expected to do.

The report, prepared under the chairmanship of Lord Pearce, shows disagreement on crucial issues involving journalists' union membership agreements and access to the press. But agreement was largely reached on the important issue of the right of editors to remain outside a union and on the need for guidance to avoid improper pressure on editors to distort or suppress news, comment or criticism.

The amendment Act came after months of parliamentary deadlock over the implications of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, which, it was maintained, might have threatened press freedom and particularly the freedom of editors.

The evidence to Mr Booth, on which he may base his own charter for press freedom, shows that the parties agreed that an editor should have final responsibility for the contents of his own paper, and that he should be free from pressure from any quarter to distort or suppress news.

The Newspaper Society, which represents the publishers of 1,200 newspapers in England and Wales, opposed the suggestion that journalists' unions should be free to negotiate membership agreements with publishers, although it was agreed that editors of newspapers and news agencies should not be required to join.

Lord Hartwell, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, said he would take up Lord Pearce's suggestion that the participants in the talks should write to Mr Booth stating their own position, and he would reiterate his total opposition to the closed shop.

Oxford may have women as proctors

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

Dons at Oxford's five women's colleges will be eligible for election as proctors if new arrangements for electing those officials are approved next term. At present the women's colleges are only on the rota of colleges able to elect an assessor, an office regarded as inferior in status to that of proctor.

The breakthrough will come about if Congregation accepts the view of a committee set up last year that there is no reason why a woman should not become a proctor.

The committee accepted the argument that since some colleges already electing proctors have mixed fellowships and could, if they choose, appoint a woman as proctor it is illogical that women's colleges should be excluded from the elections. The committee also accepted that restricting certain colleges to electing assessors is discriminatory.

The Hebdomadal Council rejected the suggestion of having three proctors instead of two on the grounds that it would convert a partnership into a committee that settled questions by a majority vote and because there was not enough work for three proctors. Instead, it suggests a new cycle of 35 colleges, two of which would each year elect a proctor and one an assessor.

Clergy cannot claim for unfair dismissal

From Our Correspondent
Cambridge

Church of England clergymen have no protection as employees under the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, a tribunal ruled yesterday. If they are dismissed they cannot take action for unfair dismissal.

The Rev Henry Housman, aged 57, formerly a curate at Littleport, Cambridgeshire, had asked an industrial tribunal at Cambridge to rule that he had been unfairly dismissed by the Bishop of Ely, Dr Roberts. Mr John Else, chairman of the tribunal, said Mr Housman was not a person "whose duties and rights are defined by contract". He was not an employee of the bishop.

Mr Else suggested, however, that because the issues were of "fundamental and considerable importance" that opportunity should be taken to test the tribunal's view before a higher authority.

The tribunal had been told the bishop had written to Mr Houseman, a deacon who is now unemployed, in March, 1976, refusing to ordain him a priest and stating: "I believe your work lies in other fields than the ordained ministry and I hope you will look elsewhere for your next move."

Mr Housman said the letter had caused him "sadness and bewilderment" and he complained that the bishop had not explained why he would not ordain him.

The bishop's legal representative had told the tribunal that the case was of importance to the Church of England because it was the first attempt to bring the church within the scope of employment legislation, with all its attendant implications.

Mr Housman and the bishop are taking further legal advice.

Staff protested before Carstairs escape

Nursing staff at Scotland's top security state mental hospital passed a vote of no confidence in their management and threatened a work-to-rule more than four years before three men were murdered in an escape last November, it was stated yesterday.

Staff at Carstairs Hospital, Strathclyde, were angry at a proposal to put occupation officers rather than nurses in charge of workshops. They included Mr Thomas Oswald, head of the nursing staff, in their vote of no confidence, a public inquiry at Lanark into the incident was told.

The staff also threatened an overtime ban and to blacklist the hospital to staff from outside.

The inquiry was ordered by Mr Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, after two patients had escaped and killed a male nurse, a patient and a police constable.

After the incident, staff at the hospital locked out four senior members of the staff.

Man got typhoid after 'ontainer toppled over'

Mr John Alfred Joyce, aged a laboratory porter, contracted typhoid after a typhoid ture container had toppled r and spilt on him, it was ided at a London inquest terday.

Mr Joyce, the first person to in the United Kingdom from hoid since 1964, had been olved in two earlier incits of improperly handling containers, Dr Eric chell, director of the Central lic Health Laboratories at ndale, London, said.

r Mitchell said Mr Joyce, of otts Road, Burnt Oak, had n warned of the dangers and been advised to wash his ds quickly. He told Dr David l, the Hornsey Coroner, that would take only a few onds for the germ to be nsferred to the man's mouth.

r Mitchell, who said he was aware of the final incident l inquiries after Mr Joyce's th, said his protective overall might have given him a false sense of security.

Mr Gerald Bevan, consultant physician with Barnet Area Health Authority, said the first diagnosis of typhoid was made on March 11. Mr Joyce was treated with antibiotics but his condition deteriorated and he died later that day.

The coroner said: "It is obvious that Mr Joyce died from a strain of typhoid identical with the strain he was seen to be handling, and from that evidence alone it would indicate that he contracted this disease while at work.

"Had Mr Joyce's exposure to this dangerous culture been known, some closer supervision of his health might have made an earlier diagnosis possible."

A verdict of death from industrial disease was recorded.

After the inquest, Mr John Smyth, representing the laboratory board and staff, said steps were being taken to ensure that no similar incident should occur again.

'ork cards used maths arning scheme

a Staff Reporter

new learning scheme for nary school mathematics was lished yesterday by Camge University Press. It is ed at children aged between n and 13 and is designed to h children mathematics in interesting and disciplined

he School Mathematics Pro, which developed the SMP course over the past five rs, has had a resounding cess with its secondary ool mathematics course, one the most widely used emes in Britain. The new ior project is based on urfully illustrated work ls and costs £35 a set.

Ir Alan Rogerson, the pro's director, said it was a akthrough in a number of s. It was readable in a way other scheme had been and design was an integral part it rather than a way of ertifying or jollifying".

Man of 77 wins action against GLC over noise

Mr Max Piper, aged 77, won his legal action against the Greater London Council yesterday over the noise made by the central heating system at the block of flats where he lives.

Mr Piper, of Malabar Court, White City Estate, Shepherds Bush, summoned the GLC housing department to West London Magistrates' Court to answer a complaint that there was noise amounting to nuisance.

Mr Peter Badge, the magistrate, held that the GLC was responsible for the nuisance, and ordered it to pay £130 costs to Mr Piper.

Mr Piper had previously said that the "steam engine" noise from the central heating system caused him to take pills at night to help him to sleep. He rejected a flat in the same block because it was the filthiest place he had seen.

It was argued for the GLC that it did not accept that the noise was a nuisance and that Mr Piper could not be aggrieved because the GLC had offered two alternative homes.

lercenary leader admits he ied to fool reporters

hn Banks, an organizer of Angolan mercenaries, said he Central Criminal Court erday that he gave two rers a dramatic account of et assignments in the Third d to throw them off the t of happenings in Angola.

e said his 48-page statet, rubber-stamped by the onal Front for the Liberaof Angola, was aimed at ing them on a wild goose e.

e statement, which was out in full, mentioned a ing in Leeds to discuss a sequently aborted plan to up Luanda docks.

r Banks returned to the witness box at the request of the defence and agreed he had lied in part in a statement to a reporter on the London *Evening Standard*.

Earlier he had been a Crown witness in the trial of four men accused under the Prevention of Terrorism Act connected with alleged supply of radio sets and arms for the IRA. He admitted working under Special Branch orders.

A Staff Reporter writes: Special Branch officers are studying a statement by Mr Banks that his men left Britain without hindrance because of his contact with an inspector in the Special Branch.

I method

tion threat to ock hospital od deliveries

rrey Area Health Authority ials last night were given ours to evacuate the Schiff ital at Cobham before bers of the Transport and ral Workers' Union block deliveries of food and dry in a dispute over 30 estics dismissed from a hbouring hospital.

e patients include 16 rrics and others receiving operative care. The ority said there was noe else for the patients to

e dismissed domestics, at Manor Hospital, Epsom, are anding the right to superthe work.

Public spending cuts 'based on a mistake'

By Our Labour Staff

Public spending has been savagely cut on the basis of a mistake, the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo), biggest of the public-sector unions, said yesterday.

Mr Alan Jenkinson, local government officer of Nalgo, said the cuts were made on the basis of a wrongly predicted public-sector borrowing requirement.

The Government had grossly underestimated the rate of inflation as the basis for local authority spending limits last year and robbed local authorities of the money needed to bridge that gap.

PARLIAMENT, March 24, 1977

Minister to look again at penalties for cannabis possession

House of Lords

The Criminal Law Bill was considered on report.

On Schedule 5 (Alteration of penalties on summary conviction of certain offences triable either way), **Lord Gifford** (Lab) moved an amendment to remove the possibility of imprisonment being imposed by a court of summary jurisdiction on conviction of an offence *of unlawful possession of cannabis*, or cannabis resin.

He said the Bill, as drafted, provided a maximum penalty of three months imprisonment, a fine of £500, or both. Scientific opinion was that the use of cannabis in moderate quantities did little or no harm to the user.

As a matter of social policy, it was not healthy to retain as an imprisonable offence an activity which for better or worse many thousands of people committed every day, and in committing it thought they were doing no wrong.

In London, magistrates' benches and stipendary magistrates did not as a rule impose a custodial sentence for possession of cannabis, but there were certain benches in the country which did. Figures for last year revealed that 514 people were sent to prison for the possession of cannabis alone.

Lord Avebury (L) said a substantial number of people, liable to imprisonment, could be expelled from university, or lose job opportunities later in their lives.

There were no grounds for the assertion in *The Daily Telegraph* recently that a woman who habitually smoked cannabis could give birth to a male child with underdeveloped or missing genitals. This was an example of irresponsible journalism which he was surprised to find in an otherwise reputable newspaper.

Lady Wootton of Abinger (Lab) said that the Government had already made a minor amendment in the Bill by bringing down the maximum sentence from six months to three for simple possession. They should now make another tiny step to remove the present stigma of imprisonment by dealing with the offence with a fine. They were not opposed to the present fine or the prospect of it *being raised*.

Lady Macleod of Borve said she deplored drugs and would never condone their use, but the Government should accept the amendment as it was not right to send these young people to prison for the offence of possession of cannabis.

Lord Janner (Lab) said an amendment of this sort ought to be supported. It was wrong that a young person who wished to travel abroad might later be prevented from obtaining a visa because he had served a prison sentence for possession of cannabis.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said he was unhappy about the amendment. The issue before them was whether the House wanted to indicate to the public, and above all to young people, that this offence of possession was now regarded by society as less serious than it used to be.

If they took away the penalty of imprisonment they would take away a great deal of the deterrent power.

Lord Gordon-Walker said that the Government had already acknowledged that the offence was less serious than it used to be by reducing the maximum period of imprisonment from six months to three.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, Minister of State, Home Office, said the Government were opposed to the amendment for two reasons. The first was technical but none the less decisive. The Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971, on which the present system of control rested, established three classes of drugs, A, B and C, into which all controlled drugs fitted. Penalties were systematically graded, class A drugs begin the most serious.

The amendment would have a remarkable effect. Possession of cannabis, which was a class B drug would not be imprisonable in any circumstances but possession of a class C drug, which was a less serious matter, would continue to be imprisonable. This was a wholly anomalous and indefensible position.

The second objection was more fundamental. An extremely confused situation had arisen since they last discussed this matter during the committee stage as a result of legal proceedings in the case of Regina v Goodchild. This dealt with the general question of cannabis.

The effect of the judgment was that although cannabis leaf itself was not a drug controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971, persons found with leaf material in their possession were liable to prosecution for the more serious offence of possessing a class A drug, cannabinol, which was contained in the leaf.

These developments had a substantial effect on the whole law relating to the control of cannabis. It would clearly be some time before legal proceedings were concluded since he understood an appeal might eventually be made to the House of Lords.

The Government would give serious consideration to the views expressed but they could not give any explicit commitment today to a particular course.

In the Government's view the amendment in any event went too far in proposing to remove the possibility of imprisonment not *only for the first or second offence* but for any number of offences on summary conviction.

However, they would seriously look into the possibility of meeting the point with regard to first offenders.

Although it was important to take into account the position that had been taken by the new United States Administration, it was only right to bear in mind that the drug situation in the United States was totally different from that in this country.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone said every argument that had been adduced for abolishing the penalty of imprisonment was equally applicable to the abolition of the offence altogether. This country had to make up its mind about cannabis.

Supporters of the amendment had a sort of intellectual arrogance about their certainty that it did no harm.

It was not for nothing that the assassins of the Middle Ages, the servants of the Old Man of the Mountains, gave their name to assassination because they used hashish. That was where the name came from.

There were two drugs of dependence—tobacco and alcohol—both of which were responsible for a great deal of crime or illness or both, already in wide general use. Was it really to be suggested that it was therefore admissible to add a third, the results of which were not yet known?

Lord Boothby said the country had to make up its mind one way or another about cannabis. It should either be made legal or punished.

I have smoked cannabis (he said) and I found it had absolutely no effect whatsoever, to my great disappointment. I have also smoked cigarettes in large quantities and drunk alcohol in large quantities. I am convinced that both these things have an extremely deliterious effect upon everybody.

There is a greater argument for prohibiting alcohol and cigarette smoking than there is for cannabis, but I shall continue to smoke heavily and to drink heavily. (Laughter.)

The amendment was rejected by 83 votes to 77—Government majority, six.

The report stage was adjourned.

The International Finance, Trade and Aid, and Nuclear Industry (Finance) Bills were read a second time.

House adjourned, 8.47 pm.

Peers' expenses

Lord Peart, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House, successfully moved a motion on peers' expenses to raise the limit on the daily allowance from £13.50 to £16.50, where an overnight stay was involved.

Tax codings for widows with children

House of Commons

In the changeover from child tax allowances to child benefit the Government had to deal with a number of transitional problems, but in the main they had dealt with them satisfactorily, **Mr Robert Sheldon**, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said.

Asked by **Mrs Lynda Chalker** (Wallasey, C) to instruct the Inland Revenue to check the 1977-78 tax codings for widows with children, **Mr Sheldon** replied: I assume Mrs Chalker is concerned about adjustments relating to child benefits.

All inspectors in charge of tax offices were reminded on March 4 of the need to see that existing *instructions have been carried out* correctly.

Mrs Chalker—There is still a chaotic muddle in the minds of many people whose tax advice was sent out before March 4 and where errors have been made over the reduction of the child tax allowance at the time of introduction of child benefit.

Will the Government ensure that when the second reduction is made, if it is made, in child tax allowance the next time, tax codings that go out, particularly to widows, are unequivocal and tell them exactly what their financial situation will be over the following year?

Mr Sheldon—Some 5,500,000 code changes were involved in this operation. Reminders have been sent out by the Inland Revenue to ensure that reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that those widows will get the correct code numbers before April 6.

Those instructions were sent out and if they are adhered to there should be little difficulty.

This has been a complex operation. By the time we come to the next change there will be some *experience in this area that should* remove problems which necessarily arise on the first occasion.

Mr Richard Mitchell (Southampton, Itchen, Lab)—A widow who has a child over 19 still at school does not qualify for the child benefit allowance but will get the child tax allowance reduced anyway, and is therefore a net loser. What will he do about it?

He says it is a small number, but there are something like 3,500 of these cases throughout the country.

Mr Sheldon—There have been important changes in the educational grant. In the changeover from child tax allowance to child benefits there are a number of transitional problems which we have had to deal with. In the main we have dealt with them satisfactorily.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick upon Tweed, L)—It is deeply distressing to the widows involved to receive £1 for their children and then to find it is taken away, and then to haggle with the Inland Revenue to make sure they are not taxed on the money they have never had. This causes deep personal distress.

Mr Sheldon—I must remind the *honourable gentleman*. (Conservative cries of "Friend".) All of us, irrespective of party, have friends situated in all sections of the House.

April 6 is the date when the new child benefit scheme comes into operation. As a result nobody is out of pocket at the moment. Nobody can be out of pocket until the scheme starts its operation.

I have tried to ensure that nobody will be under any misunderstanding as to the intention of the Government regarding this matter and instructions have been sent out to that effect.

Mr David Howell, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (Guildford, C)—The whole story of the introduction of the child benefit is a dismal tale of incompetence of which this is just one more aspect.

For those with children in full-time education over 19 it is not good enough to say something will be done later or that there will be a revised scale in the new academic year. People face the need from April 6. This is one more area where a higher standard of efficiency and competence is required.

Mr Sheldon—I take it he is not opposed to the change from tax allowance to cash support for the mother. We have not had notable support for this important change with immense social consequences.

This change is valuable and will be seen to be valuable. I hope we shall be able to carry the House with us into the final stages where support for the mother for the child will be regarded as a normal arrangement.

Recouping a devaluation in green pound

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said he would only want to see a devaluation of the green pound if Britain could get value for money in another direction. He was replying to a question about discussions with President Carter *on EEC matters*.

Mr Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test, Lab) asked: Has he seen reports that the Tory group in the European Assembly has recommended a 25 per cent devaluation of the green pound, adding 8 per cent to food prices? This would be damaging to our interests.

The Conservative Party is clearly now the party of Common Market imposed high and rising food prices. (Labour cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—It is true that a substantial devaluation of the green pound would add heavily to our price increases in this country. It is also true there has been an official statement that the Conservative Party spokesman is in favour of a substantial devaluation of the green pound. This is bound to put up prices, which cannot be denied.

That is why we have so far resisted *giving way on the green* pound. I would only want to see a devaluation if we could get value for money in another direction.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L)—Would the Prime Minister on any future visit to the United States attempt to explain that in the Conservative view, talks between them and ourselves with a view to sustaining a Conservative Government in power to provide a stable programme is the height of patriotism while similar talks to support a Labour Government is a squalid deal? (Conservative interruptions.)

Mr Callaghan—We know that patriotism always exudes from the Conservative Party when in office but sometimes fades rather when they go abroad in Opposition. (Labour cheers.)

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C)—When the Prime Minister is considering the subject of the green pound, will he bear in mind the necessity for having a successful British agricultural industry, and that rests very much on some devaluation of the green pound? (Labour protests.)

Mr Callaghan—*The question of the* devaluation of the green pound should not become a matter of theory. It is a matter of practicality. We would not want to see a situation in which there was total inflexibility in these matters. We would want to get something worthwhile elsewhere.

The CAP is based on certain national interests. Our national interest has been very much pushed into second place; we are such a large consuming and not so much a producing country.

We want to see a healthy agricultural industry here and will do so. But on the green pound, I want to see us get something else.

Later he added: The agricultural policy of the Community was devised before Britain became a member and is not in Britain's interests as it stands. We have by our entry thrown a considerable influence on the side of European consumers and we shall continue to do so.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C)—Did the Prime Minister let President Carter, during his talks, into a secret he has never shared with the Commons—that if he is not going to devalue the *green pound, how he is going to* put into agriculture the capital it needs to carry out the Government's own policy outlined in the paper *Food from our own Resources?* (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—I did not discuss the green pound with President Carter. The success of British agri*culture is very important. The* resources being put into it are sufficient to encourage growth and that growth is coming.

What Opposition MPs who support the CAP ought to ask themselves is whether they want to support a policy based on a social phenomona in some of the European continental countries and does not meet the needs of the market or of the consumers.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—If he thinks the resources to go into British agriculture are sufficient to increase food production, why is it that food production is lower than it was in 1970?

Mr Callaghan—I am not sure whether Mr Prior visits the countryside. Let me assure him that production on certain farms suffered heavily last year through a drought that might have escaped his notice.

Exchanges with minister on Tate and Lyle

Mrs Audrey Wise (Coventry, South-West, Lab) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer how many copies of *Accountancy Age* were taken by his department.

Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary (Heywood and Royton, Lab)—One.

Mrs Wise—If he has read that one—(laughter and a cry of "Which one?")—he can have observed an account of the incredibly complex price-fixing agreement between the sugar producers and the equally complex price equalization scheme operated by the Government, and while no blame attaches ultimately to Tate and Lyle, I wonder if he is satisfied that in this complexity the taxpayers' interest is being adequately safeguarded in assessing taxes and subsidies for the sugar refiners.

Mr Barnett—I did read the article in question in relation to Tate and Lyle. In this case the Comptroller and Auditor General did report on this matter and when we get the report of the Public Accounts Committee, or if it decides to report on it, the House will want to take an opportunity to discuss the matter further.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab)—It is *significant* that another large private enterprise company, one of the most virulent anti-nationalization companies in the country, leading the Mr Cube campaign, is only too happy when the occasion arises to take great hand-outs from the state so that the shareholders' funds benefit to the tune of over £6m in this case.

Mr Barnett—Not only did I read the week's edition of *Accountancy Age* which Mrs Wise asked me about, but I read the following week's which withdrew everything said in the previous week. (Laughter.)

I appreciate the point. It is right that the taxpayers' interest should be carefully taken into account.

I am sure the Comptroller and Auditor General has done that in his report. When the Public Accounts Committee, or if the PAC, decide to comment on it, we will have an opportunity to consider it further.

Mr Andrew Bennet (Stockport, North, Lab)—Would he consider persuading Tate and Lyle to put a simple statement of the financial position on the packets of sugar so that the consumer can see what is involved? (Laughter.)

Mr Barnett—That is an interesting suggestion. I am sure the board of Tate and Lyle will have noted it.

Miss Oonagh McDonald (Thurrock, Lab)—Who bears the costs of restocking the nation's stockpile of sugar following the loans to sugar companies—Tate and Lyle in particular? Will he not agree there are still grounds for disquiet owing to the complexity of Tate and Lyle's accountancy procedures and the complexities of the issues involved.

Will he ensure in future Tate and Lyle present their accounts in a simple and straightforward way, *making perfectly clear to all and* sundry the extent to which they rely on Government support?

Mr Barnett—The presentation of public company accounts fascinates me as it does her. I would like to see them more simply presented. At present there is much consideration about presenting them, if anything, in a more complex way.

On the question of who benefits, one of the major beneficiaries, as has happened in the case of sugar, is the developing countries to whom we guarantee generous prices.

Mr Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C)—I declare an interest. It is appalling that Labour MPs should indulge in accusations of guilt by association when the Public Accounts Committee have cleared the charges mentioned, and while *The Times* has denied categorically its own misleading report on the subject.

Would he deny the sort of implications that Labour MPs are making?

Mr Barnett—I do not propose to deny anything or support anything until I see the report of the PAC. That would be the sensible way for the House to take this matter. On guilt by association, I note his views on that particular point.

Mr John Pardoe (North Cornwall, L)—Would he care to use the opportunity to advise all companies like Tate and Lyle who might fear nationalization that as long as this Parliament lasts and as long as the agreement between the Labour Government and the Liberal Party continues there is no fear of nationalization at all? (Laughter.)

Mr Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Heston, Lab)—Well spoken, comrade.

Mr Barnett—I am happy to consult Mr Pardoe on this and other matters at any time.

Problems in proxy voting for sick MPs

There were problems about introducing proxy voting for sick MPs, **Mr Michael Foot**, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said in answer to **Mr Arthur Lewis** (Newham, North-West, Lab).

Mr Lewis asked, during exchanges on future business: Now that we have got over the immediate difficulty of last night can I ask the Leader of the House to have discussions next week with the other political parties to stop this stupidity of having to drag in sick people to vote.

Is it not posible, when every elector in the country has the right to give a proxy vote, *if indisposed* or sick, that some system could be arranged to give a sick MP the right to vote by proxy?

Could there not be a simple agreement between the Prime Minister and other party leaders for the purpose of seeing that no sick MP need come to vote if he does not want to and we will facilitate his voting by proxy?

Mr Foot (Ebbw Vale, Lab)—I certainly recognize that there is strong sympathy for what he has said in many parts of the House. The same questions were raised some months ago when we had similar problems.

We did have some discussions then, although we have not reached an agreement, and I doubt whether we can solve it. I have great sympathy but there are more problems about proxy voting than might be suggested in the question.

Chancellor nears 60

During questions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, about a suggestion of tax incentives to induce men to retire at 60 if they wished, **Sir Geoffrey Howe**, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (East Surrey, C), said he understood that Mr Healey was due to celebrate his 60th birthday on August 30 this year.

While (he went on) I am sure that the whole House would wish him a long and happy life—(laughter)—we intend so to arrange things that he will need no fiscal inducement to lay down his heavy burden well before that date.

Mr Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Ashton under Lyne, Lab)—When the Chancellor's 60th birthday comes, he will still be in harness, working for the good both of the Government and the people of this country. (Labour cheers.)

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 11: Private members' motions on direct elections to the European Parliament; exchange rate; inner city land values.

Sticking to contributions principle for social security benefits

When Lords amendments to the Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill were considered, **Mr Stanley Orme**, Minister for Social Security (Salford, West, Lab), moved that the House should agree with a Lords amendment introducing a clause extending powers to make regulations on credits.

He said it was a late but necessary addition to the Bill.

The purpose of the amendment was to avoid an unintended and expensive effect of changes to the National Insurance scheme since 1975 which would have enabled people to acquire contributory benefit rights although they had not paid contributions or received contributory benefit for many years.

The problem lay mainly in the credits regulations. The new clause would extend existing powers to make regulations on credits so that the use of credits given for 1975-76 or 1976-77 could be restricted in establishing future benefit rights. Statutory powers already existed for dealing with credits awarded for later tax years.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, chief Opposition spokesman on social services (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, C), said this was an unsatisfactory business, but the Opposition did not intend to oppose the Government in trying to put matters right.

The minister had said that the legislation as it existed placed no limitation on the extent of the credits for contributions paid while enjoying benefits. Perhaps more significantly in relation to this particular amendment, there was no power now to make regulations to provide such a limitation. He *was proposing a new regulation* empowering him to close this loophole.

The Government were amending legislation by regulation. That had always been regarded as undesirable. This legislation was retrospective, and that was always highly undesirable.

The House needed to be told precisely the range of people affected, the numbers and the circumstances in which they were likely to be affected.

Mr Robert Boscawen (Wells, C) said that bringing a clause forward like this needed a great deal of consideration and explanation. To interfere in any way with the contributory principle, particularly by regulation, was a serious matter.

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, C) said the possible cost of the mistake should be put on the record.

He warned the Government that he felt so strongly that this sort of mistake should be brought to the attention of the outside world that it was his intention to divide the House, if only as a symbolic gesture, feeling that the only way they could be protected against this sort of error was by people being on the look out to make sure that it did not happen.

Mr Orme said the cost of not doing this was far greater than any cost it might entail.

The Government had made no attempt to flannel their way out and hide the fact that a mistake had been made. It was there for all to see. Ministers had to take responsibility for this and he took it on behalf of the Government.

The whole point of the regulations was to reinforce the contributory principle, not remove it. They were not out to undermine that principle.

Credits traditionally awarded for sickness and unemployment benefit would not be limited by the regulations. However, with a significant *contribution record in the same* year as they had been awarded, credits would be able to be used without restriction.

In other words, the intention was to place a limitation on the use of credits which was appropriate to the nature of the contributory national insurance scheme and which was somewhat closer to the pre-1975 arrangements.

Credits already awarded would be allowed to stand for benefit in that year in which they were awarded if the claimant had received a contributory benefit or had paid contributions on a specified amount. The amount to be specified would be a contribution on earnings amounting to 13 times the allowed earnings limit.

The amendment was carried by 229 votes to 47—Government majority, 182.

Mr Eric Deakins, Under Secretary for Social Security (Waltham-Forest, Walthamstow, Lab), moved that the House agree with a Lords new clause for a review of the operation of the earnings rule.

He said its purpose was to put a duty on the Secretary of State for Social Services to report to Parliament on the operation of the rule and the cost of its abolition. The report would have to be laid by October, 1978, and would presumably be published.

It remained the Government's view that such a review was not necessary on its merits but he had undertaken earlier to consider a suggestion for obtaining more detailed information about the effects of the rule.

The Government had not departed from the view that abolition of the earnings rule would be an expensive proposition and that prospects of finding the resources to dispense with it in the near future were extremely slim.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, chief Opposition spokesman on social services, said they could not understand why the Government resisted this proposal when it was put forward at an earlier stage.

The new clause was agreed to.

The remaining Lords amendments were agreed to.

A merger of party newspapers suggested

A report in *The Times* that four Cabinet ministers had threatened to resign over the deal with the Liberals was raised by **Mr Ian Gow** (Eastbourne, C) during questions to the Prime Minister.

He suggested that in view of that report Mr Callaghan should place in the Commons library a record of what took place at the meeting so that the House and country could judge the extent to which the *Liberal Party had betrayed their* erstwhile supporters. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—There is no ministerial responsibility, thank God, for what appears in the press. I would advise Mr Gow not to believe everything he reads even in august newspapers like *The Times*.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (East Thanet, C)—Will he propose to the Royal Commission on the Press that there should be a merger between the *Labour Weekly* and the *Liberal News*? In the absence of one of these skilled deals, the *Liberal News*, like the Liberal Party, is soon likely to go broke from lack of support. (Laughter).

Mr Callaghan—I hope that is not the case. I would not want to see that that was the first result of the understandings we have reached. I am willing to advise everybody to read the *Labour Weekly* which has an exclusive article by myself today. (Laughter.)

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (East Surrey, C)—When considering that helpful suggestion, would he like to consider taking on a more ambitious task and including in the merger the *Tribune* newspaper as well? (Laughter.)

Mr Callaghan—I am a long and faithful reader of *Tribune* which is more than I can say of Conservative newspapers. But if they would like to put me on their free subscription list I will even undertake to read them week by week.

Preserving balance in the new situation

Mr Peter Rost (South-East Derbyshire, C), on a point of order, said that since last night there had been a realignment of the number of MPs who supported the Government and those who supported the Opposition.

It is also a well established practice of the House (he said) that you maintain a fair balance in question time between official supporters of the Government and those who oppose the Government in the MPs you call.

I am not, of course, suggesting that there has been any imbalance, or alignment in the choice of those you have called today but I am seeking your guidance as to whether or not you have accepted in practice for the future that those members of the Liberal Party who are called, even though they still prefer to sit on the Opposition benches rather than sit with their new marriage partners—(interruptions)—that you take into account when you call MPs from the Liberal benches . . . (renewed interruptions.)

Can we have clarification that in future you will take the time occupied by MPs of the Liberal Party when they are called, even though they are on the Opposition benches rather than with the Government and not take that out of the time of official Opposition MPs? (Conservative cheers.)

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas)—The answer is quite simple. For centuries this House has invested in its Speaker complete discretion about who catches his eye and when they catch his eye. Certainly it goes back to Speaker Onslow, to time in the eighteenth century and I believe further.

I propose that until or unless the House takes that discretion from the Speaker, I propose to exercise it as fairly as I can. (Labour cheers.)

Public inquiry over Mersey ferries

Mr Eric Ogden (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab), moving the second reading of the Merseyside Passenger Transport Bill, said it was intended to enable urgent and difficult decisions about public transport on Merseyside to be made by the people of Merseyside for the people of Merseyside in and on Merseyside and not 200 miles away in Whitehall.

It was estimated that the operation of the river ferries cost the Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive almost £1m more per year than the income from the ferries.

The loss of income to the transport authority caused by the 15 per cent or so of bus passengers who deliberately did not pay the full authorized fares for bus journeys was estimated at £2m per annum.

The Bill proposed a means to enable the passenger transport executive and the Mersey County *Council to attempt to deal with* these two losses totalling £3m a year or more.

There would be a full and open public inquiry on Merseyside before decisions were taken about possible ferry closures.

It was proposed that passengers who deliberately paid less than their full fare on the buses should be required to pay the maximum standard fare as a penalty.

Mr John Horam, Under Secretary for Transport (Gateshead, West, Lab), said the Government had no objection in principle to the proposals. On the ferries issue, it was the passenger transport executive that had to decide where its priorities with economies lay. He welcomed the proposals for a local inquiry into the closure of the ferries

He had considerable sympathy with the desire to reduce non-payment of fares, a widespread problem. But the way the promoters *proposed raised some difficulties* of principle of particular interest to the Home Office. These were under discussion with the promoters.

Mr Graham Page (Crosby, C) said the proposal that people committing offences on fares on the ferry should be faced with a demand for £1 on the spot had been dropped and in its place there was provision for charging standard fares in cases of over-riding, such fares being subject to the determination of the commissioners, to be collected on the spot.

There was a great danger to the public in allowing this to creep into a private Bill of this sort. It was a matter of principle whether they allowed even the police to collect fines on the spot. Once it got into a private Bill it would be a precedent for Bill after Bill. Finally it would be introduced into their general law on the ground that it had gone into a lot of private Acts. He hoped they would cut out firmly fines on the spot.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said he had never believed in one-man buses which he had always seen as a step backwards *Instead of improving*, services had deteriorated. Particularly in view of the present high level of unemployment there should be more people on the buses.

In Liverpool the ferries were an institution. The city had lost so many institutions and must not lose the ferries also disappear.

Mr David Hunt (Wirral, C) said that the anger felt by his constituents was deep. Had this Bill slipped through it would have entitled Merseyside County Council to close the ferries without any public inquiry and with one month's notice. They might have been able to close the Wallasey ferry without any public inquiry.

Mrs Lynda Chalker (Wallasey), said she did not often stand around in Liverpool late at night. It was not a sensible thing to do. Occasionally she drove through late at night. She would be reluctant to make bus inspectors responsible at any time of the day for collecting control fares.

At the same time she recognized the problem faced by the transport executive in trying to stop people using the buses illegally.

The Bill was read a second time.

Health warning on packets of cigarettes

Mr Patrick Jenkin (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, C) asked the Secretary of State for Social Services to make a statement in the light of the advice of the Health Education Council that health warnings on cigarette packs were resented by the public and might therefore be counter-productive.

Mr David Ennals said in a written reply: I know of no scientific evidence which would indicate that the health warning itself is resented by the public.

An investigation carried out for the department indicated that the attribution of the warning to the Government might be counter-productive and it was for this reason that we negotiated a change of attribution from "HM Government" to "HM Government Health Departments". Indeed the evidence available to me suggests that smokers generally tend to approve rather than disapprove of the health warning; and that for a significant body of smokers it has led them to choose a brand with a lower tar yield. This is an aim of the Government's strategy.

The change in the wording I have recently announced should also increase its impact. The revised warning is now to appear *for the first time on advertisements*. Any reservation about the effectiveness of the warning is, in my judgment, far outweighed by the almost certain consequences of its removal from packets and by its appearance on advertisements.

Change in family income supplement rules

Mr Eric Deakins, Under Secretary for Social Security, moved that the Family Income Supplement (Computation) Regulations, 1977, be approved. Other social security regulations were also considered.

He said the central issue in the debate was the FIS computation regulations together with the general amending regulations needed to complete modifications to the FIS scheme in time for the beginning of the child benefit scheme in April 4.

The regulations specified the prescribed amounts and maximum payments applying from April. One of the regulations specified that the basic prescribed amount would be £39, and the step would be reduced by £1 from £4.50 to £3.50. Another provided for a maximum payment for families with one child to continue to be £8.50 with an addition of 50p for each child after the first.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, an Opposition spokesman on social services (Wallasey, C), said despite her hostility to the failure of the Government to bring forward a proper family support system, they had to welcome the regulations.

They could only be a further stop-gap. They could not go on raising FIS, changing tax thresholds, and making more families dependent on means tested benefits. What was needed was a fundamental policy from the Government.

The regulations were agreed to.

Independent inquiry into death of Mrs Rachel Ross

Mr James White (Glasgow, Pollok, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if he was yet in a position to make an announcement on the issue of an independent inquiry into events consequent on the death of Mrs Rachel Ross.

Mr Bruce Millan, said in a written reply: There are difficulties about the form of any such inquiry. It could only be given statutory form, equipped with power to call witnesses and to examine them on oath with the protection of absolute privilege, by the establishment of a Tribunal of Inquiry under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act, 1921. Having regard to the findings of the Salmon royal commission about the difficulties and dangers involved in 1921 Act tribunals and their recommendations for the restriction of their use, I have rejected such a possibility.

There are other major considerations. There have already been two criminal trials in connexion with the death of Mrs Ross. Patrick Meehan's conviction has been the subject of the grant of a free pardon by her Majesty, and Ian Waddell was acquitted of the charge of murder. It would be wrong in principle in my view, and potentially unfair to Mr Meehan and Mr Waddell for an inquiry to call in question such past issues.

It is also an important principle that, having regard to the nature of the decisions to be taken, the Secretary of State cannot be obliged to give detailed reasons in justification of his decisions in individual cases whether or not to make a recommendation for the exercise of the royal prerogative of mercy.

This principle, and the similar principle relating to the Lord Advocate's decisions regarding prosecutions, must not be undermined. These considerations necessarily govern the form and content of any inquiry.

I have come to the conclusion, however, despite these difficulties, that it would be in the public interest to establish an independent inquiry, which for the reasons I have indicated will be held in private, into the circumstances surrounding this case, and the Hon Lord Hunter, Senator of the College of Justice, has agreed to my request that he should undertake it. The report of the inquiry would be published in due course.

The terms of reference will be:

"To carry out an independent examination of the available information relating to the murder of Mrs Rachel Ross at Ayr in July, 1969, and the action taken by the police, the Crown Office and the Scottish Home and Health Department relating to that case both before and after the trial of Mr Patrick Meehan; and to report:

So, however, that, without excluding any available information the terms of reference shall not extend to the making of any judgment about:

(1) The guilt or innocence of Mr Patrick Meehan or Mr Ian Waddell *of the charges contained in the* respective indictments against them:

(2) The reasons for and justification of any decision by the Secretary of State for Scotland upon, whether or not to make a recommendation for the exercise of the royal prerogative of mercy; and

(3) The reasons for a justification of any decision by the Lord Advocate whether or not to institute, or concur in, any criminal proceedings".

All the papers and other information relevant to the issue in the Scottish Office and the Crown Office will be made available to Lord Hunter and the Chief Constable of the Strathclyde Police has agreed to cooperate in the same way.

It will be open to any person who wishes to do so to provide information or make representations to Lord Hunter concerning the case, and while, as I have indicated, there is no question of his having power to compel the attendance of witnesses, it will be open to him to invite to an interview and to question such persons as he may think necessary.

Official Tory policy on immigration

House of Commons

There was a further exchange at question time between the Prime Minister and Mrs Thatcher about the immigration policy.

Mr John Ovenden (Gravesend, Lab) asked the Prime Minister to pay an official visit to Gravesend.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab)—I have at *present no plans to do so*.

Mr Ovenden—If he is unable to come, will he suggest to Mrs Thatcher that she pays another visit? In Gravesend we have a large immigrant population and a successful Community Relations Council supported by all parties.

Conservative supporters are concerned that they are now led by a person who has refused to dissociate herself from a racialist campaign by the Conservative candidate in the Stechford by-election. (Labour cheers and Conservative protests.)

Mr Callaghan—I am glad that this is an all-party campaign in Gravesend. I have noted that the Conservative Party, more when in Government, have taken a responsible attitude on immigration and race relations. I am glad the Home Secretary appointed Mr David Lane to be chairman of one of the boards.

The Conservative candidate at Stechford has gone beyond Conservative Party policy and I hope that there could be a dissociation from that.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C), rose to Conservative cheers. She said: As this was raised last Tuesday and I was not aware of the basic leaflets to which it referred, published seven months ago, I did not rise. I have seen it.

I am in a difficulty because in theory I am not able to quote from documents in asking questions but I hope I may refresh my memory plentifully.

Our policy is that we believe that "We will only succeed in maintaining and securing tolerance for all minority groups in this country by holding out the clear prospect of an end to immigration". That is official policy.

The leaflet referred to today referred to the interests of good race relations in future. It ended: "What do the Labour Party say?"

We know what the former Chief Whip says about immigration. What does the Prime Minister say?

Mr Andrew Faulds (Warley, East, Lab)—Do you disavow? Answer a simple question.

Mr Callaghan—I was endeavouring to make it possible for Mrs Thatcher to make a positive statement on this question. (Labour shout of "She is wriggling".)

The policy of ending immigration would clearly be inhuman. That has not so far been Conservative policy. Under that no dependants and no wives may join those in this country.

I hope that Mrs Thatcher will reflect on this matter again because it is not the policy enunciated in her own document.

Later Mr Callaghan said: I am very anxious there should be no unnecessary disagreement or lack of understanding about what policy is on this important social issue which can raise so much tension.

I understand Conservative Party policy to be that they do not want to stop the immigration of dependants joining their relatives here. I trust that is still the position.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, Under Secretary, Home Office, in a written reply, said provisional figures showed that during 1976, 31,000 Commonwealth citizens and 13,100 foreign nationals were accepted for settlement on their arrival in the United Kingdom. The corresponding figures for the year 1973 were 25,633 and 3,936.

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HOME NEWS

£200m-a-year plan to alleviate effects of youth unemployment

Mark Jackson of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

A £200m-a-year plan to guarantee everyone under 18 a chance to work or learn has been prepared in the Manpower Services Commission. It proposes that jobless teenagers could be paid £17 a week to participate in a programme of work projects and training.

The plan is based on startling new long-range predictions for youth unemployment prepared by the commission's analysts. They predict that peak seasonal unemployment among leavers may stay at this year's record level for at least another five years.

The Times Educational Supplement today reports that the plan drawn up by a working party will come before the 10 manpower commissioners on April 26, so that it can be put to the Government in May as the commission's formal recommendations for action.

The working party, drawn from industry, the education service and youth organizations, and headed by Mr Geoffrey Holland, a senior MSC executive, proposes an integrated programme of work projects, community service, work experience and vocational education. It would be run by local committees made up of representatives of local authorities, employers, unions, voluntary organizations, and possibly some young people, which would be expected to vary the schemes to suit local and seasonal needs. The options to be provided are broadly similar to some of the crisis measures being used to combat youth unemployment, which they would replace; but they all place a heavy emphasis on some form of training or education and are designed to interlock, so that youngsters can use them as a planned progression of career preparation.

For the two years in which they would be eligible those participating would receive a flat-rate allowance of £17 a week. Local committees would recruit and administer staff to run the schemes, while education authorities would be expected to cooperate in providing courses. Remedial education would be an important part of the scheme for the 20,000 youngsters, who, the Holland report estimates, leave school each year unable to read or write.

The main cost of the scheme, the report says, is the proposed payment to the young people. It expects that about 200,000 of them will have to be provided for at any one time.

The estimate is based on the five-year forecasts in the report, which indicate that on the most favourable reasonable assumptions of economic recovery peak unemployment among the 16-18-year-olds will not fall below 300,000, and at worst, will stay at this year's level of 450,000.

The report does not propose that the scheme should try to cover those transitionally out of work, partly because computer models showed that it would make the cost astronomical, and also because the working party wants to avoid the danger that young people will become locked in the programme after they have become ready and able to get normal jobs.

It is believed that the real cost to the taxpayer of the full scheme will be less than half the £200m to be paid out, because of offsetting economies in social security payments and other expenditure.

Independent inquiry into controversial murder case

By a Staff Reporter

An independent inquiry into the murder of Mrs Rachel Ross in Ayr in 1969 was announced yesterday by Mr Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland.

The announcement coincided with an angry rejection by Mr Patrick Meehan, who served seven years' imprisonment for the murder, which he did not commit, of £7,500 compensation.

The inquiry, which will be conducted out in private by Lord Cuthbertson, the Scottish High Court Judge, will examine all the information relating to the murder, but it will not consider the guilt or innocence of Mr Meehan, who has been given a full pardon, or of Mr Ian Liddell, who was acquitted of the murder.

Mr Ronald King Murray, QC, the Lord Advocate, will give immunity from prosecution to witnesses at the inquiry who admit to having committed a crime.

Our staff reporter writes from Edinburgh: Mr Meehan said at his home in Glasgow last night: "The idea that I would accept £7,500 is just ridiculous. I am rejecting it completely."

Mr David Burnside, his solicitor, said in Aberdeen that he regarded the amount as derisory. He did not believe there was much hope of negotiating a higher award, and the Scottish Office said there was no appeal against the award.

Mr Burnside said they would be considering legal action against Mr Millan, claiming civil damages for wrongful imprisonment. That might be the only way in which Mr Meehan could gain proper recompense.

Mr Millan agreed to the ex-gratia payment of £7,500, which was recommended by an independent assessor, Mr Bruce Weir, QC. The government letter to Mr Meehan's lawyers said: "While accepting that Mr Meehan's reputation, already bad, was damaged by his conviction for murder, and that his feelings suffered a genuine sense of injustice at being convicted and imprisoned for a lengthy period, the assessor took account of Mr Meehan's previous convictions and evidence about his way of life at the time of his arrest in July, 1969."

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Counsel examine Yard report on Keating inquiry

Treasury counsel are studying the reports submitted by Scotland Yard to the Director of Public Prosecutions on a seventh investigation into the production and sale of paintings by Mr Tom Keating, it was disclosed in London yesterday.

Further inquiries may have to be made before a decision on prosecution, if any, should be taken.

Mr Keating, painter, picture cleaner and self-confessed art forger, who lives at Dedham, Essex, has been interviewed several times by Scotland Yard since the inquiry began last December.

The inquiry was prompted by Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent of *The Times*, who first disclosed that Keating was the author of numerous pastiches of drawings by Samuel Palmer, the nineteenth-century artist. Detectives began work when the Redfern Gallery, Mayfair, complained that 31 pictures it bought in

Keating later recognized thirty of the pictures as his work. They had been done in the German Expressionist style. The thirty-first is thought to be genuine. Since then the police have seen more than [illegible] people and recovered sixty Keatings.

A genuine Keating painting at the Festival Hall is to be sold at Christie's on Monday. The dealers' estimate is £200 to

Pensions 'give civil servants pay advantage'

By Margaret Stone

The advantages of Civil Service index-linked pensions are now so great that, as an offset, their salaries ought to be 3 per cent lower than those of their industrial counterparts.

That is the recommendation of Mr Edward Johnston, the Government Actuary, whose department has just finished a review of private pension schemes as a basis for comparison.

At present 1½ per cent is deducted from civil servants' pay to allow for the fact that their pensions are inflation-proofed. The rate of deduction was fixed in 1973.

The reassessment carried out by the Government Actuary's Department is based on its revised opinion of the long-term trend of interest rates, salaries and inflation. The assumption now is that over a period of no less than 20 years salaries will exceed inflation by only 1½ per cent, instead of the 2 per cent lead previously assumed.

However, the department has not revised its opinion about the long-term growth in our standard of living, which it still reckons will be 2 per cent. Together the overall assumption now is that earnings will exceed price inflation by 3½ per cent, not 4 per cent.

Cover story to cover wife murder, prosecution says

Ross

Donald Chambers, accused of killing his wife and then burying her, tried to cover the crime five years later by telling police that she had run off with her lover, it was alleged at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday.

Inspector Leslie Simms said Mr Chambers told the police in a statement that he last saw from his wife a week before Christmas, 1971, when she returned home from work to leave a note saying she had run off with a boy friend.

Mr Chambers, aged 51, of Dee Street, Blackpool, has pleaded not guilty to murdering his wife, Mavos.

Detective Simms, of Luton police, said that in an interview Mr Chambers said his wife had become an alcoholic shortly after her mother died and he used to dread going home as she began to drink more. He was alleged to have stated: "I have not heard from her or seen her since 1971." He had written letters to her sister saying they were still together, because he was embarrassed at the failure of their marriage.

Mr Petre Crowder, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mr Chambers stabbed his wife, aged 40, to death in a fit of anger and buried her in a shallow grave in the garden of their home in Westhill Road, Luton. The police found the wife's remains in July last year after her sister had become suspicious.

The trial continues today.

WEST EUROPE

Home worries and dispute over London summit cast gloom on EEC leaders' Rome meeting

From Michael Hornsby
Rome, March 24

A chastened group of EEC leaders meet in Rome tomorrow to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the treaty establishing the European Economic Community, to which Britain, together with Ireland and Denmark, acceded only in 1973.

Ringing oratorial affirmations of European faith will doubtless not be wanting when the heads of government gather at noon on the Capitol to commemorate the occasion, but few among them have much to cheer about.

Two of the prime ministers present, Mr Tindemans, of Belgium, and Mr den Uyl, of Holland, head caretaker governments pending general elections they were obliged to call after the collapse of precarious coalitions.

Mr Callaghan has also had troubles in maintaining his majority and President Giscard d'Estaing has had his personal authority diminished by sweeping left-wing gains in recent municipal elections.

Signor Andreotti is in the midst of a continuing social and economic crisis, and even Herr Schmidt, the iron Chancellor, is reported to be wearying of the burdens of office. It will not be surprising if there is some sense of strain in tomorrow's jollities.

On the Community plain, prospects are scarcely brighter. Once the speeches are over, the mood of good will is likely to be tested severely by a wrangle over whether the EEC, as a political entity, should be represented at the economic summit in London in May as well as its four big members, Britain, France, Italy and West Germany, who will attend as individual nations.

The EEC's smaller brethren, led by the Dutch, have kicked up a fuss, arguing that both the president of the Council of Ministers and the President of the European Commission, Mr Jenkins, should also be present to put the Community point of view.

Only the French now seem inclined to oppose the Dutch case strongly, although neither Herr Schmidt nor Mr Callaghan is likely to be seen rushing to the barricades in its defence.

The position is complicated because Britain, which will be host to the economic summit (a successor to the earlier gatherings in Rambouillet and Puerto Rico also happens at the moment to hold the presidency of the EEC. It could be argued that a British presence will be sufficient guarantee that a collective EEC voice will be heard.

After some initial hesitation, Mr Jenkins spoke out publicly earlier this month in favour of his attendance at the summit. At the end of last week, he flew to Bonn to press his case with Herr Schmidt, who is understood to have indicated that he would at least not oppose Mr Jenkins's participation.

Conscious of their isolation, the French are thought to have softened their position, but Mr Callaghan, who will be in the chair, could well have his work cut out to steer the discussions to a harmonious conclusion.

The record of the series of thrice-yearly meetings like tomorrow's, now known as the European Council, has not been one of dazzling success. Another well-publicized failure, or inconclusive outcome, could have an adverse effect on Community morale.

Explanations for the tough French line are sought mainly in President Giscard d'Estaing's taste for man-to-man diplomacy at the higher level. He appears to feel that, if too many people are allowed in on the act, the usefulness of the economic summits, which were his own brainchild, will be diminished.

The heads of government will also be looking at the European Commission's proposals, unveiled earlier this week, for the immediate propping up of steel prices and the long-term slimming down to profitable dimensions of the EEC's overweight and under-used steel industry.

While few can quarrel with the diagnosis, there is likely to be some jibbing at the proposed remedies. Herr Schmidt can be expected to voice his well-known distaste for any interference with the private market. The Commission's scheme may also be opposed by the Italians, whose low-cost producers would be hard hit.

For the rest, Mr Callaghan and his colleagues are expected to issue a statement about trade relations with Japan, still in severe imbalance, and make ritual lamentations about the divergent performances of their economies. They will also discuss future negotiations with developing countries in the context of the North-South dialogue.

Mr Mintoff.

Invest in Malta, says Mr Mintoff

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

After the unseemly haggling about rent for the British base on Malta, which so upset relations a few years back, Mr Mintoff, the Maltese Prime Minister, has made it up with Britain.

He returned home yesterday from a visit to London to help attract British investment. Sounding very much the elder statesman, he told industrialists at a dinner that there would be more room for co-operation, after the defence agreement ended in 1979, than before. Judging from the enthusiastic reports of their ventures given by leading industrialists, Malta is a profitable place to be.

There are several advantages in Malta, according to Mr Mintoff. First, it enjoys industrial peace. "Don't ask me how we have it, because we are a democracy, but we do."

Second, there is political stability. Mr Mintoff won a very tough election last year and, as he told his British audience, there is no need for a coalition government.

Further advantages given by Mr Mintoff are that Malta is surrounded by friends, it is a small, self-aware community, and, finally, the Government has no ambition to nationalize businesses.

How does Mr Mintoff feel about Britain now? "I have to watch my background, not to be too British", he declared. "My job is to be pro-Maltese." Winning the George Cross was a fine thing for the island, but not enough to live on these days.

Accordingly, he is seeking to create between 23,000 and 24,000 jobs, to replace the employment at present provided by Britain. New projects have already made 13,500 jobs, and fresh investment is being sought to make up the rest. Those who can get on with it for themselves without seeking government help, would be rendering Malta a good service.

"Our main interest is not to replace the base with another base", Mr Mintoff concluded. "Our main interest is to replace the military base with a centre for peace activities. Peace is a better investment."

Nato near approval of early warning system

From David Cross
Brussels, March 24

Mr Harold Brown, the United States Defence Secretary, said today he thought that Nato member countries were "quite close" to an agreement on the terms for setting up the Airborne Early Warning System (Awacs) for the Alliance.

Speaking on his arrival in Brussels to attend a special meeting of Nato's defence ministers tomorrow, he said he hoped his colleagues would be in a position to endorse the programme this week and take it back to their capitals for final approval in the near future.

The Ministers are meeting at Nato Headquarters here to resolve their continuing differences over their governments' financial contributions to the scheme, which will cost $2,400m (about £1,500m) to set up. The West Germans, in particular, are unwilling to shoulder about 25 per cent of the cost as originally envisaged. They are seeking to reduce their share to around 18 per cent, which would be in line with Britain's planned contribution.

Commenting on two days of talks in Washington last week with Herr Georg Leber, the West German Defence Minister, Mr Brown said he thought Bonn was now convinced that the Alliance needed the Awacs system, consisting of 27 Boeing 707s, equipped with sophisticated radar equipment. The West Germans appeared ready to work out final details of their financial participation, he felt.

Nato is under considerable pressure to go ahead with the scheme as soon as possible. The British are threatening to go it alone with their own early warning system based on Nimrod reconnaissance aircraft if an agreement on a larger Nato system proves impossible. This is because the existing British system based on aging Shackletons will soon have to be replaced.

The defence ministers of the four European Nato countries, which have agreed in principle to buy the American F16 fighter aircraft met here today in a new attempt to resolve cooperation terms offered by the United States. The meeting was requested by the Danes, who together with the Norwegians have come off worst in offset arrangements.

By contrast the Belgians and the Dutch have won valuable contracts for the construction of engines and parts of the fuselage and wings of the new aircraft. Today's talks, which appear to have centred mainly on concern among the four nations about the escalating costs of the 348 aircraft they are buying, have delayed the final signing of contracts originally due on April 1.

However, well-informed officials were confident after the meeting that final problems could be resolved between the four and the United States in the near future. They expected contracts in what has been called "the arms deal of the century" to be signed either at the end of next month or in early May.

Chancellor taken ill in Bonn

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, March 24

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, cancelled all his engagements except one today because of a sudden respiratory illness.

The Chancellor, who is 59, felt unwell this morning and was advised by his doctor to take a day's rest. The only exception he made was to keep an appointment with Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, who is on a visit here.

A Government spokesman said later Herr Schmidt still intended to go to Rome tomorrow to take part in the European Community's twentieth anniversary council meeting and to have an audience of the Pope.

The Chancellor has been under unusual strain recently, due to a series of difficulties and setbacks for his Government amounting to a deep but indefinable crisis.

Eurovision song event called off by BBC

The BBC announced yesterday that the Eurovision song contest would not take place as planned in Britain on April 2. A dispute with the Association of Broadcasting Staffs over a £3-a-week regrading claim for outside broadcast cameramen had not been resolved.

The contest was to have taken place at the new Wembley conference centre.

After the association's refusal to give an assurance that the programme would be transmitted, the European Broadcasting Union had been informed that it was impossible to stage the contest as planned, the BBC said.

"We could not take a chance on having, at short notice, to tell the participating countries, an countries who were taking the show life, that we could not transmit it."

The cameramen prevented the showing of the contest to find Britain's entry for the 18-nation contest, but it was broadcast on radio. Britain's chosen song was Rock Bottom, by Lynsey de Paul and Mike Moran.

Our Genera Correspondent writes: The European Broadcasting Union announced that it still hopes the contest will be staged at another place and date, to be decided if possible within the next few days.

An official said, however, that union sympathy for the cameramen had created a "delicate" situation, so it was not possible for the moment to indicate new venue elsewhere—Europe.

The European Broadcasting Union says that once the contest has been relocated, possibly in Holland or West Germany, or even in Britain at a later date, at least 10 days will be required for reorganization. It regards the song contest as by far the most popular item in its annual repertoire, and expected an audience this year of about 500 million people, including, for the first time, Soviet viewers.

Broadcasting officials have called the postponement "tragic"

Socialist leader warns the Spanish monarchy

From Our Correspondent
March 24

The Spanish monarchy will be endangered if Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, decides to form a party from within the Government for the forthcoming elections, Señor Felipe González, leader of the Spanish Socialist Party, said last night.

"If the monarchy wants to be a constitutional one then there is no other way than to have clean elections", he said at a party meeting.

Under the election rules, the Prime Minister can run in the elections without having to resign, whereas all other senior office holders must give up their posts. Señor Suárez's mandate does not expire until 1981 and he could continue as Prime Minister without taking part in the elections. Señor Suárez has not yet said what he will do.

Señor González, who has threatened that his party will boycott the elections if they are not fair, said that if the political objective was to conserve the present political power for the next four years then this was short-sighted and would probably lead to a radicalization of political forces after the elections were over.

"An operation by an 'institutional party' to create confusion among the emerging political forces would be a failure and those who would pay for it would not be the organizers but the people," Señor González said.

The opposition is divided over the issue of the Prime Minister running in the elections. Señor Santiago Carrillo, secretary-general of the Spanish Communist Party, has made it known that he is not against the idea. His support is almost certainly tactical, particularly as he is awaiting to hear whether the Supreme Court will legalize his party.

The Cabinet was meeting today to consider allowing greater freedom for the press.

In Caceres prison, Basque prisoners have gone on hunger strike in demand for an immediate and full amnesty. According to the Justice Ministry, 62 political prisoners, mainly Basques, have been released under the terms of the Government's new amnesty.

Portugal's EEC application due next week

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 24

Portugal is expected to lodge a formal application for membership of the European Community at the beginning of next week, it was disclosed here today.

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, has recently toured EEC capitals seeking support for the application. The generally warm response he received during his visits is expected to be echoed by foreign ministers of the Nine when they meet for their monthly session in Luxembourg early next month.

Youths charged with theft of a van Gogh

Amsterdam, March 24.—Two teenagers stole a self-portrait by van Gogh valued at 1m guilders (about £240,000) from the Amsterdam Stedelijk Museum but were caught by guards as they tried to smuggle it out under a coat.

The youths, aged 18 and 19, are members of an art society which was helping to pack paintings after an exhibition of local work. They took time off to remove the van Gogh from one of the adjoining halls.

The youths were charged with theft. The painting was on loan from Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.—AP

Dutch Queen in crisis talks

The Hague, March 24.—Queen Juliana of the Netherlands today sought the views of party leaders on how to resolve the Government crisis after the breakup of the five-party coalition.

A decision on the form of the caretaker government to rule Holland until the May 25 elections is not expected until towards the end of next week.

Mr den Uyl, the Prime Minister, whose Cabinet fell on Tuesday after a revolt by Roman Catholic and Protestant ministers over land policy, prepared to leave today for a two-day EEC summit in Rome.

All ministers have provisionally remained at their posts while Queen Juliana considers their resignations.

Observers said Mr den Uyl was certain to be asked to stay on as caretaker

Danish unions defy court as press strike widens

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, March 24

Action by printing workers today stopped publication of the Danish national newspapers *Politiken* and *Ekstra Bladet*, the main competitors to *Berlingske Tidende* and *BT*, which have been prevented from publishing since January 30 by a separate conflict.

This afternoon, as about 2,000 printing workers demonstrated outside the building, a labour court fined two unions involved in the *Berlingske* dispute a total of £17,500 and 1,000 striking employees £50 each for ignoring its February 16 order to return to work. The court once again ordered them to go back to work without delay.

Spokesmen for *Politiken* said tonight they did not know whether the newspaper would appear tomorrow. That would depend upon the result of a "solidarity meeting" of the involved trade unions this evening.

The latest fine is not expected to make the *Berlingske* strikers return to work. Union spokesmen refuse to accept the ruling of the court of its authority to interfere.

Other newspapers may be hit by strikes in the next few days, together with printers across Denmark. Organized labour is negotiating a renewal of collective agreements running for the next two years, but the graphic trades section has failed to reach any agreement.

Union officials say employers have refused to discuss agreements on new technology that will safeguard the future earnings of their members.

Swiss historian wins Erasmus Prize

The Hague, March 24.—Professor Werner Kaegi, the Swiss historian, has won this year's Erasmus Prize, worth 100,000 guilders (£20,000), which is awarded by the Erasmus Foundation for outstanding contributions to European culture and science.

Casino ban on civil servants in Spain

Madrid, March 24.—Civil servants and military men who handle state funds are barred from gambling casinos by royal decree published today. Also barred are minors, drunks, madmen and convicts on parole.—Reuter.

Appointments Vacant also on pages 25 and 26

OVERSEAS

Democrats ally with Republican 'rump' to throw out union Bill

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 24

A *surprising* defeat was inflicted last night by Congress on the trade union leadership and their Democratic allies who had been assumed preponderant.

Defeated by a vote of 217 to 205 in the House of Representatives was a Bill with the uncommon name of Common Situs. It proposed allowing strike picketing of all activities at one building site even though an industrial dispute might concern only a single union or one subcontractor. The experience will be familiar in Britain.

The big guns of the AFL-CIO, the TUC-equivalent in the American Federation of Labour-*Congress of Industrial* Organizations, had fired many salvoes in support of the Bill. Last year they were thwarted by President Ford's veto. But now, having expended multi-millions of dollars on the election of House Democrats, and with a Democratic President who, while not enthusiastic, had said he would *not veto it*, the union leaders sat back and waited with a certain complacency.

That may have been their undoing. The building industry mightily alarmed, lobbied flat out. The House leadership, it seems, was attending to other more important business. At the vote, 88 Democrats joined the *prematurely written-off* "rump" of Republicans.

Many of these Democrats, along with the Republicans, are much exercised by the so-called "right to work"—a legal situation, most prevalent in the South, which not only outlaws closed shops but permits employers to prefer non-union labour. The wage savings are obvious and are a source of bitter North-South contention.

The political fallout of last night's vote is uncertain. It raises the question of how much "clout" the trade unions can bring to bear, and whether it is fading or can now be redoubled after being caught napping.

Much important union-supported legislation is pending. It includes attempts to repeal those "right to work laws" as well as establishing a new minimum wage.

Coincidentally, *President Carter* introduced his new minimum wage proposal today: it is for an increase to $2.50 (£1.45) an hour as the legal, federal minimum, together with a novel "indexing" mechanism linked from next year to the cost of living. It is less than the big unions wanted.

Mgr Lamont speaking at Heathrow yesterday.

Deported bishop sees tragedy for Rhodesia

By Roger Berthoud

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Umtali, Mgr Donal Lamont, said yesterday that he was disappointed by his expulsion from *Rhodesia and profoundly* worried by developments there.

"I think a great tragedy looms before us unless a settlement can be achieved quickly", he said at a press conference at London's Heathrow airport before flying on to Dublin. Later he will go to Rome to give a full report to the Pope.

"Opinion against the white people is hardening and feelings are becoming very bitter", he said. "The African feels he can no longer count on the sense of justice that he once expected from the white man.

"He has no particular desire to get tied up with the Russians or Cubans or indeed with any communist group. He still expects action from Britain . . . he expects from Britain the justice that has been denied him so long."

In October Mgr Lamont, who *is 55, and had been in Rhodesia* for 30 years, was sentenced to 10 years' hard labour for failing to report the presence of guerrillas. On appeal this was reduced effectively to one year. But the Rhodesian Government decided that jailing him would make him a martyr in nationalist eyes, so after being held in a Salisbury hospital, he was deprived of his Rhodesian citizenship, declared an undesirable person and put on an aircraft to Dublin, by way of London.

He said yesterday: "After 30 years in one country trying to serve it as best I could, it is a bit of a disappointment to be interrupted in my work. On the other hand, my having been deprived of the citizenship of Rhodesia is not a great disadvantage at this moment, considering the regime which confers citizenship."

It was a great relief, he said, to get away from the daily *recriminations, reports of* brutality and people being sentenced to death. "No one knows the number of people who have been hanged for politically motivated offences. Since April, 1975, it is no longer necessary for the Government to publish the names of those who have been hanged.

"This is a very serious manifestation of what goes on in a country that professes to defend Christianity and Western civilization. It is a most severe indictment."

It was Mgr Lamont's relentless denunciation of the brutal tactics of the Rhodesian security forces, and of the abrogation of the rule of law in Rhodesia, that led to his expulsion. Many of his clashes with the Government resulted from his presidency of the Catholic Commission for *Justice and* Peace in Rhodesia.

He thought his expulsion would *strengthen* rather than weaken the churches in Rhodesia. "It is going to convince the people there that we are really serious in our commitment to accept social justice as an integral part of the Church's message."

He did not regret any of his actions and said he had no evidence that those people who were given medicine were guerrillas.

Asked about the brutal killings of missionaries in Rhodesia, Mgr Lamont said: "This is a mystery; this I cannot explain." Wherever he had been, people denied that those they knew had anything to do with it.

He seemed to point a finger at Rhodesian government agents when he added: "Some of my priests have been threatened by European security forces and told: 'Watch out! One dead missionary *is as good* as a hundred'."

Mgr Lamont said he thought a *non-violent solution* was still possible. "But everyone must be brought in. We must attribute good motives to African leaders, even to those who are most extreme, not simply damn them as atheistic communists and promoters of violence. Men do not want violence. Violence is the reaction of brute beasts."

Bonn, March 24.—The West German Roman Catholic bishops' conference protested *today about Mgr Lamont's* deportation. It issued a statement saying that Mgr Lamont had been campaigning for a humane society in Rhodesia in accordance with Christian principles.

"We protest most forcefully against his expulsion from Rhodesia", the statement said.—Reuter.

Soviet call for Indian Ocean peace zone

From Nicholas Ashford
Dar es Salaam, March 24

President Podgorny of the Soviet Union said today that his country was prepared to consider "on an equal basis *together with other states* concerned" the question of declaring the Indian Ocean a "zone of peace".

The President, on the second day of his state visit to Tanzania, was speaking at a banquet in Zanzibar where he arrived earlier today. Moscow, he said, shared the desire of Tanzania to transform the Indian Ocean into a "zone of peace". The establishment by the "imperialist powers" of military bases in the region and their attempts to retain South Africa as the guardian of the Cape sea route was a threat to peace.

"The key question in the preservation of peace in this region is the elimination of imperialist military bases which exist in the Indian Ocean", he said, adding that the Soviet Union had no bases there.

Earlier today Mr Podgorny *had a two-and-a-half hour* meeting with President Nyerere at which they discussed the Middle East, disarmament and world peace. It was their second round of talks.

From Nicholas Ashford
Dar es Salaam, March 24

At a banquet last night the Soviet President promised that his country would always be on the side of the "freedom fighters" in southern Africa. "The *very existence of the* racist regimes in southern Africa is a serious source of tension, fraught with the threat to peace and security", he said. The Soviet Union believed that the elimination of colonialism and racism was one of the most important international tasks.

In a speech of welcome, President Nyerere thanked the Soviet Union for its military assistance to the nationalist movement in Rhodesia and *Namibia* (South-West Africa).

However, President Nyerere emphasized that Tanzania was a "fervently non-aligned nation" which wanted friendship with all countries in the world. Tanzania was determined that Africa should be completely free from all external controls.

More whites leave as war widens

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, March 24

The death toll from Rhodesia's four-year long guerrilla war has topped 4,000, a statistical *milestone coinciding with* the news that 642 more whites left the country last month than came in.

This debilitating loss of white expertise is put down to the build-up of the war and the lack of progress towards a constitutional settlement.

Of the 4,044 who have died since the guerrilla conflict got seriously under way in December, 1972, 79 were white civilians and 1,394 black civilians.

Migration statistics show that *during February*, 46[illegible] whites came to Rhodesia and 1,107 left. Last year the net loss of whites was more than 7,000.

Mr Nkomo asks for Soviet help

Lusaka, March 24.—Mr Joshua Nkomo, joint leader of the Patriotic Front national alliance, says the Front has asked the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for increased assistance to step up the guerrilla war against the Rhodesian Government.

Mr Nkomo, who shares the *leadership of the Patriotic* Front with Mr Robert Mugabe, said in a television interview that all *efforts* to get assistance From Western countries had been fruitless

He was prepared to meet Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, during his planned visit to southern Africa next month, he said, but *Britain must really* [illegible] that any future constitutional conference would depend mainly on Britain's willingness to transfer power to the black majority and to accept "one man, one vote".

Any internal agreement between Bishop Muzorewa, a moderate African leader, and Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, would be a capitulation.—AP and Agence France Presse.

Concorde stirs up a storm in New Jersey

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 24

The idea that Concorde might land at Newark, New Jersey, if it continues to be blocked at Kennedy Airport in New York has caused an immediate controversy west of the Hudson. Both supporters and *opponents have spoken up and* a public hearing has been called for next month.

Many of the most vocal opponents are in Elizabeth, a city which lies south of Newark and has part of the airport's runway within its limits. Residents have said the extra noise would be intolerable, echoing the complaints of people who live round Kennedy, and they have been *backed by Mr Thomas Dunn*, the Mayor.

In Newark, on the other hand, Mr Kenneth Gibson, the Mayor, has spoken in favour of Concorde landings and has asked the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates both Kennedy and Newark, to examine the possibilities. *It would give* Newark with its ailing economy, a healthy boost, he *maintains*.

In a sense, the debate is academic because neither British Airways nor Air France has shown the slightest interest in Newark. The reason is they both have a heavy investment in Kennedy, where British Airways has built its own terminal. Neither now flies into Newark, nor do many other international airlines, though it has the status of an inter*national airport and the facili*ties for them, although its runway is considered too short in some conditions for Concorde.

Meanwhile, the *Journal*, an Elizabeth daily paper, has reported that most people living in the airport area were opposed to Concorde and quoted one man as saying: "*Why bring it here? If it* comes here it will wipe out all the churches, the houses, *everything*."

It all sounded very like New York, except that in New Jersey there are politicians who have spoken out in favour of Concorde landings, whereas in New York opposition is almost universal.

Martha's Vineyard threatens to secede

From Peter Strafford
New York, March 24

A small war of secession is under way in New England. The islands of Martha's Vineyard, containing Chappaquiddick, where Senator Edward Kennedy was involved in a fatal accident some years ago, and Nantucket, *the old whaling centre*, have announced that they intend to secede from Massachusetts.

In response, Mrs Ella Grasso, the Governor of Connecticut, has invited them to join Connecticut.

"Connecticut from its very beginnings has been a refuge for disgruntled Massachusetts citizens", Mrs Grasso said. "There is no record of any of them regretting the move." Several Connecticut towns, including Hartford, the capital, and New London, were founded by *people who left Massachusetts*.

The people of the islands are angry because, under a district *reorganization plan, they are to* lose their own representation in the Massachusetts legislature and be made part of Cape Cod, to the north of them. They have been complaining for some time, and announced their secession on Tuesday.

In Hartford, however, officials admitted they did not expect to see Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket become part of Connecticut.

Mrs Grasso had not made any offer of representation to the islands, they said, although she *had suggested flying the island's* flag from the east tower of the Connecticut state Capitol, and *making the seagull the joint* state bird, along with the robin.

2,000 houses destroyed in village fire

Katmandu, March 24.—More than 2,000 houses were destroyed in a fire which raged for two days in the village of Karanjana, south east of here, it was reported today.

President's new arms proposals

Continued from page 1

the United States had no need to apologize for the Vietnam war, nor to assume blame, and certainly would not be forced to pay reparations to the Communists.

"The destruction was mutual", he said. American motives had been to help the *South Vietnamese*.

He was ready, as Hanoi seemed to be in receiving the *American mission this week*, to relinquish the pursuit of past disagreements. He offered "aggressive support" for Vietnam's admission to the United Nations once the accounting for American war missing was complete, and he was *also* looking for better trade with Vietnam and perhaps a balancing of Hanoi's friendship with Moscow.

In this, the President seemed to be echoing his retort to the Kremlin that as Soviet leaders had never refrained from criticizing western countries, so he reserved the right to *speak out*.

Mr Carter, in outlining the critical nature of his Administration's first high-level contact with the Kremlin through Mr Vance's visit, defended his practice of publicly discussing complex foreign policy issues. It is a habit which some faint-hearts have called the policy of *the open mouth*.

His presidency "derived its strength from the people"; it was good for the people to know what was going on, and to know of the possibilities of success and failure. Likewise, the world should know that his was not a lonely voice on human rights.

He spoke with the support of Congress and, most important, with the support of the people. The implicit reference was that past Administrations had not done so—particularly Dr Henry Kissinger who, as Secretary of State, was always admonishing those who did not support his policies.

There was a half warning in *Mr Carter's words* about the search for peace with the Soviet Union. The Soviet cooperation in *preparations* for Mr Vance's visit to Moscow seemed "adequate proof" that Mr Brezhnev was acting in good faith over arms control, the President said.

If the Soviet Union met the United States halfway, they would find agreement. But if not, if there were no good faith, there would be change.

The President would not spell that out, even when pressed by reporters in informal conversation after the news conference was over, but the implication was that there would have to be increased defence spending.

In discussing Mr Vance's Moscow agenda, Mr Carter made it clear that the Secretary of State is aiming for a pact on smaller nuclear arsenals than those tentatively agreed by Mr Brezhnev and President Ford at Vladivostok in 1974.

Korchnoi and Petrosian agree on draw

Lucca, Italy, March 24.—The Soviet grandmaster, Tigran Petrosian, and self-exiled countryman, Viktor Korchnoi settled for a draw in the *ninth game of* their 12-round world chess championship quarter-final today. Korchnoi leads 5—4 in the match.

In Rotterdam Lajos Portisch, of Hungary, drew with Bent Larsen, of Denmark. Portisch leads by 5½ to 3½ point.

In Reykjavik the twelfth and last game between Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union and Vlastimil Hort of Czechoslovakia was postponed because Hort is unwell. It will be played on Sunday. Each player has 5½pts.—AP and Reuter.

Mr Carter's efficiency man sweeps in

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, March 24

The Carter Administration's efforts to reorganize the federal Government are attracting growing interest among civil servants in other countries, according to Mr Bert Lance, director of the Office of Management and Budget, who is chief architect of the reorganization plans.

Earlier this week Mr Lance discussed some of his aims with Sir Claus Moser, director of the British Central Statistical Office and head of the Government Statistical Service. Officials of other foreign governments, attending an international statistical conference organized by Mr Lance's office, have also been discussing the topic with him.

Mr Lance, in an interview with *The Times*, said the concept of "zero-based" budgeting, *under which every government* department and agency must account for every penny of spending and not just for spending increases, will be used fully in preparing the Budget that President Carter will announce in January.

Legislation to allow reorganization of the federal bureaucracy is now moving through Congress and Mr Lance appears to be winning the battle *with those* congressmen who fear the possible consequences.

Guerrilla bomb plant blows up in Ankara

Ankara, March 24.—Police discovered a bomb factory belonging to the illegal Turkish People's Liberation Army in a house in an Ankara suburb today when some of the bombs exploded accidentally.

Two female members of the group were injured by the explosion, the police said. One of the girls was captured but the other escaped.

Pistols, a submachine gun, ammunition, explosives and false passports were also found.

Police said documents in the house indicated that the group was responsible for 10 recent bombings throughout Turkey.—AP.

Victory over Zaire troops claimed by invaders

Brussels, March 24.—The National Front for the Liberation of Congo (FLNC) claimed in Brussels today that its forces had taken the town of Mutsharsha, 97 miles west of the copper mining centre of Kolwezi in the Shaba province of Zaire.

The forces identified as Katangan gendarmes and invading from Angola had been reported in control of Mutsharsha a week ago by sources in Kinshasa.

The front also claimed that it had routed the 10th Battalion of the Zaire Army in the first day of its offensive and taken 13 armoured cars, several lorries, 370 automatic rifles, other weapons ammunition.

"In the 15 days since the people's fight for liberation has started, the FLNC has had favourable support from the farming masses, workers and intellectuals in liberated towns", a communiqué published today said.

The front also repeated its earlier denial that its forces were led by mercenaries, as claimed by the Zaire Government.—AP.

Kinshasa, March 24.—Zaire forces have brought the mining area of Kisenge under control after invading mercenaries from Angola had made it the base of operations, the Zaire press agency AZAP said yesterday.—Reuter.

هكذا من الأصل

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

We'll take more care of you

British airways ANNOUNCE

No 20 Friday, March 25, 1977

Fly the flag

Wide-bodied jets soar from seven to seventeen every week

GULF GETS TEN MORE TRISTARS

KEEPING right in step with the enormous business boom in the Gulf, British Airways is to increase its wide-body TriStar services to the area from seven each week to 17 from April 1.

This means that a daily TriStar service will operate to Dubai, Dhahran and Abu Dhabi, and Bahrain and Doha will have TriStar flights for the first time. Kuwait will have six TriStrs a week until May 18, when the TriStar service will be extended to a flight every day.

British Airways can also offer these advantages on its Gulf services:

- It is the only airline to fly to all seven Gulf destinations, plus Jeddah, from London.
- There are non-stop flights to Bahrain, Dhahran, Kuwait, Doha, Jeddah and Muscat — a major plus point with the international business community looking to save time.

British Airways introduced the wide-bodied luxury of the TriStar to the Gulf a year ago, but this superliner will become a far more familiar sight in the area this summer.

Increased

For instance, Dhahran which now has four TriStars each week will enjoy a daily TriStar service.

Abu Dhabi, from having eight flights a week flown by a mixture of different aircraft, will have a TriStar every day.

Doha's service with four VC10s will be increased to seven VC10s, plus three TriStars a week.

And Muscat, which has had four VC10s each week, will be visited four times each week by British Airways 747.

Announce Reporter

The British Airways TriStars have been fitted out to serve the demands of the business community in the Gulf area, with an enlarged first-class cabin, seats in both sections as big as those in the jumbo jet, and improved wardrobes and galley units.

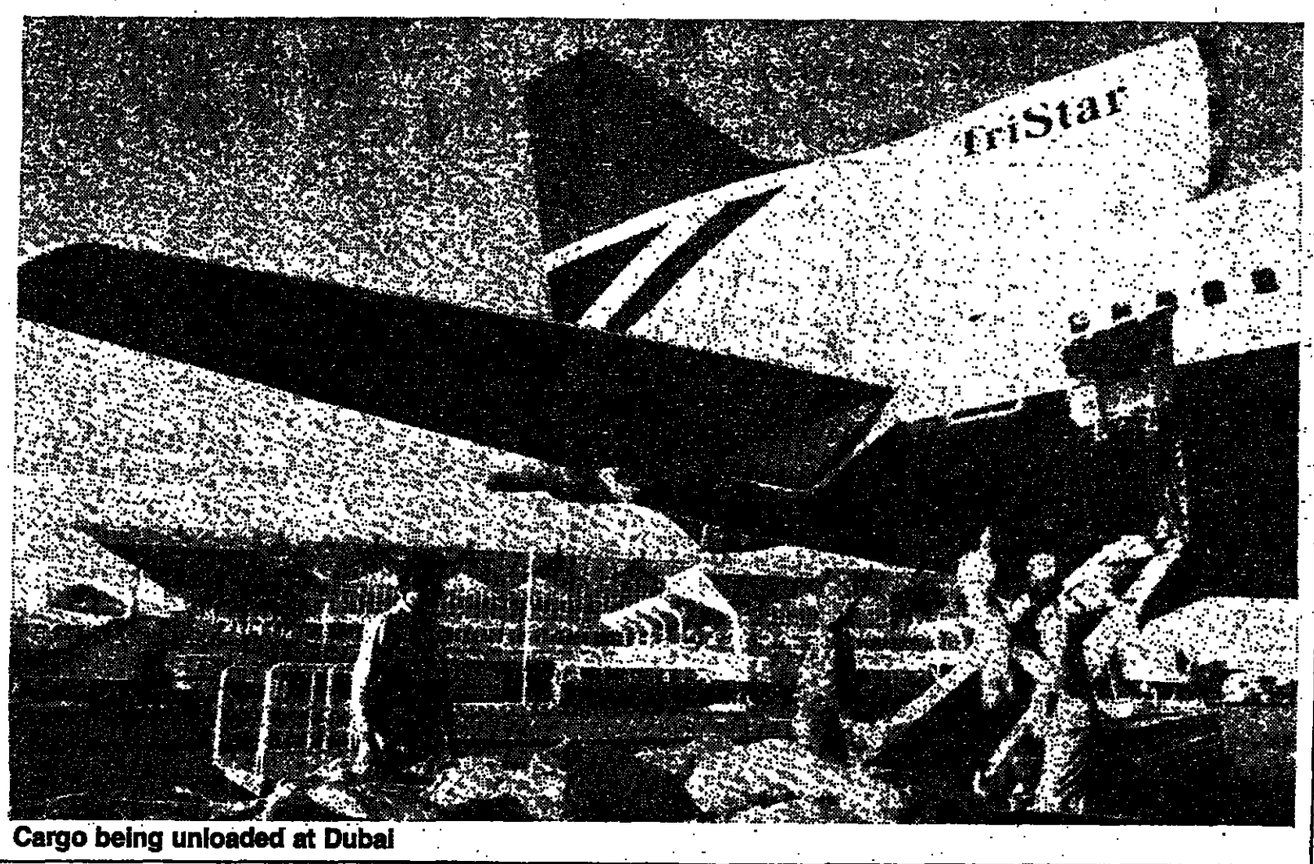
Middle East

At the same time, British Airways is stepping up its services to other parts of the Middle East.

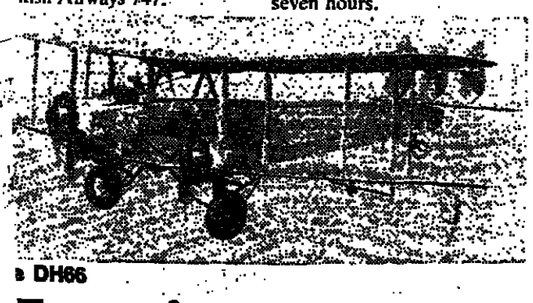
To Teheran there will be 14 VC10 flights each week instead of ten. Ten of the flights will be non-stop.

To Cairo the services are to be increased to six each week. To Amman there will be four non-stop flights each week, two by TriStars and two by VC10s. And to Baghdad there will be two TriStars and a VC10.

British Airways' imaginative summer timetable puts the whole of the Middle East at the disposal of the business traveller more frequently than ever before, with most flights taking around seven hours.



Cargo being unloaded at Dubai



DH66

The pioneers

BRITISH AIRWAYS which flew Concorde on the route to Bahrain has always been in the forefront of aviation in the Gulf and the Middle East.

In 1927, the first services were operated by a DH66 Hercules. It carried 14 passengers and a crew of three, flew at 95 miles an hour and took six days to Basra. In 1932, Bahrain's first commercial service also took six days.

Quite a contrast from Concorde! She flies there now in just four-and-a-quarter hours.

Relax with the Monarch

WELCOME! British Airways Senior Passenger Agent Anna Pearce kicks off the reopened Monarch Lounge in Terminal Three at Heathrow, which can be used by First Class passengers and Executive Club holders. The lounge has been completely refurbished and redeco-

Belfast gets the super Shuttle

Cartoon by Ross

FROM April 1, Belfast will join the highly successful British Airways Shuttle services. That is just part of the spring news for UK travellers.

The London-Belfast Shuttle, which will be operated by Tridents, will follow the same principles pioneered by British Airways on the Shuttles to Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Passengers can buy their tickets in advance at Travel Agents or pay on board the aircraft. Seats are guaranteed without any need for advance booking.

The Shuttle will operate a two-hourly service between 0820 and 1020 from Heathrow. First departure from Belfast is at 0720 followed by a two-hourly shuttle between 1020 and 2020.

New services

On the same day — April 1 — another important new flight will be added to the already comprehensive Great British service offered by British Airways.

ABERDEEN, the nation's oil capital, will be the destination for a twice daily service from Gatwick.

The Gatwick route will be in addition to the existing five flights a day between Heathrow and Aberdeen.

The weekday BAC 1-11 flights will depart Gatwick at 0940 and 1905. They will leave Aberdeen at 0750 and 1715. Flying time is 80 minutes.

MANCHESTER services have also been improved. Now there are nine Super 1-11 flights to London every day.

There are also new services from Manchester to Zurich and Frankfurt.

British Airways is expanding many of its busy routes within Britain in response to the increasing demand for air travel.

Supporting the wide network of air services available are British Airways Associate Hotels, which are ideally located in main centres.

At all the points served by British Airways around the country are good car hire facilities and to complement the instant Shuttle service there is an instant car hire scheme.

Shuttle-Drive by Godfrey Davis guarantees a car without any need to book. Passengers can pick up a hire-car booking form on departure.

REWARD Wanted: The top traveller

THE SEARCH is now on for the top traveller on British Airways domestic flights during March and April.

The person who uses British Airways domestic services most during these two months will win a two-week holiday for two at a first-class hotel in Bermuda (in association with the Bermuda Department of Tourism).

All scheduled domestic flights qualify and to enter all you need do is write and tell British Airways what flights you have been on.

Please retain the passenger coupons from tickets for the period in case proof of travel is required later.

Runner-up prizes will be awarded on a regional basis.

Entries, by May 9, to British Airways, Dept IB, 18 Crimscott Street, London SE1 5TS.

6 days left for the Jubilee Sale

THE Great British Airways Jubilee Year Sale spring offers, with up to £30 off some holidays, are coming to a close.

Already thousands of holidaymakers have taken advantage of the savings offered at 70 hotels in the Sovereign, Enterprise and Cambrian brochures. But with the March 31 deadline approaching time is running out for sun-seekers chasing a bargain.

The other great news for travellers is that all Sovereign, Enterprise and Cambrian holidays in Europe and North Africa are at a guaranteed fixed price. Not one penny will be added to a holiday after it has been booked. (Only Government action can affect this guarantee.)

This Fixed Price Guarantee, pioneered by British Airways in 1975, also applies to the Jubilee Year Sale.

The discounts offered in the sale are for April, May and June departures and are:

- **£10 off many seven-night holidays.**
- **£15 off many 14-night holidays.**
- **£30 off selected 14- and 21-night holidays.**

The British Airways holiday bonus does not end there.

Announce Reporter

Discounts for children have been improved. Special Family Fares, which can include free baby-sitting service two nights a week, have been introduced on certain Enterprise Holidays.

All are designed to make the holiday £ go a little further.

Details of the Jubilee Year Sale are available from Travel Agents and British Airways shops.

There is not much time left to book. So hurry, collect your Enterprise, Sovereign or Cambrian brochures and ... book before March 31.

These are just some of the Jubilee Year Sale bargains:

SIX JUBILEE SALE BARGAINS

	Hotel	Departure	Brochure price from	Jubilee Sale price from
			7 NIGHTS	
MAJORCA (Enterprise)	Tropical (Playa de Palma)	Manchester Luton	£104	£94 (full board)
ITALY (Enterprise)	Arenal (Cattolica)	Gatwick Manchester Glasgow	£91	£81 (full board)
SPAIN (Enterprise)	Copacabana (Lloret de Mar)	Gatwick Manchester Glasgow	£69	£59 (full board)
			14 NIGHTS	
SPAIN (Sovereign)	Miramar (Castro Urdiales)	Heathrow	£175	£160 (full board)
TURKEY (Sovereign)	Cinar (Istanbul)	Heathrow	£280	£265 (half board)
MAURITIUS (Sovereign)	Saint Geran (Mauritius)	Heathrow	£590	£560 (half board)

All prices from London

For reservations or further details, see your travel agent or British Airways shop

More jets than ever to Germany

THE BOOMING Federal Republic of Germany is a top target for British businessmen chasing vital export orders.

British Airways soon recognised the increase in demand for speedy direct services to the major German trading centres. And from April 1 it has more flights from the UK to the Federal Republic than any other airline — 129 flights a week to nine important German business centres.

A British Airways spokesman said: "We want to do all we can to help British business travellers capture their share of this market."

To help boost the export effort there will be major increases in flights from April 1.

Non-stop

From Heathrow, flights to Frankfurt will increase from three to four a day, and to Munich they will increase from seven to 12 a week. There will be a new non-stop service to Hanover every day. In addition, there will be a second daily service to Hanover in the periods, April 19-29 and September 19-30, during the two major trade fairs.

Düsseldorf has three flights a day including a new morning departure at 0945. Hamburg and Berlin each have two flights a day, while Bremen, Cologne and Stuttgart are served daily.

From Manchester there is a new service to Frankfurt every weekday, plus the daily service to Düsseldorf/Berlin. There are also flights every weekday from Glasgow and Birmingham to Düsseldorf.

British Airways German service does not end with the most comprehensive timetable available. It also offers:

- Special inclusive packages, including all the main exhibitions and trade fairs.
- British Airways Associate Hotels in Munich and Düsseldorf, which can be booked at the same time as the flight.
- Special Spouse fares so that a businessman can take his wife with him at reduced rates.

Europe flights increased

BRITISH AIRWAYS flights into Europe are now more frequent and better than ever. Here are some of the new developments:

PARIS: The route from London to this city, one of the busiest in the world, has now been increased to seven flights a day from Heathrow. Four of those flights are by wide-bodied TriStars.

The regular two-hourly schedule from 0800 to 1800 is now augmented with a 2030 service and First Class is available on every flight.

Paris flights also leave from Manchester, Birmingham and Cardiff/Bristol.

Improved

NICE: Services have also been improved with the introduction of TriStar for the first time on five days a week.

MILAN: It now has three British Airways Trident flights a day from Heathrow — at 0845, 1415 and a new service at 1815, except Saturday.

MADRID: Spain is becoming increasingly important and British Airways has stepped up its TriStar flights to Madrid to three a week.

The twice daily service from Heathrow leaves at 1010 and 1550, with TriStars operating the morning flight three days a

OVERSEAS

Holy Land looks at human rights two ways

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, March 24

President Carter's declared intention to champion the cause of human rights everywhere has led to separate and mutually unsympathetic responses in Israel and its occupied *Arab territories.*

In the Holy Land, human rights lie very much in the eye of the beholder.

Understandably, Israelis see the main thrust of Mr Carter's efforts as directed against *totalitarian* deprivation of liberty in Eastern Europe, and particularly *against* the restrictions on Soviet Jews who want to emigrate.

This is a battle Israel fought almost single-handed for several years and it is delighted to have powerful support. With *the help of* world Jewry, information drives are being mounted to *increase pressure on Moscow* to allow more Jews to leave.

In contrast, little attention is paid by the Israeli public to the rival campaign by West Bank leaders for better treatment of their people. The prevailing *view* is *that*, although occupation regimes are always regrettable, it *is the Arabs'* fault that this occupation has lasted 10 years and that in any case it has been mostly benevolent.

This view is based on what Israelis have read, and what they *have not read*, in their newspapers. It is passed on skilfully to *foreign visitors.* A group of British writers, including Lord Willis and Iris Murdoch, on a 10-day visit, found nothing to criticize in *Israel's* treatment of Arabs under occupation and noted *approvingly that in Gaza* Palestinians were being given "an opportunity to rebuild their lives and attain some degree of human dignity".

An Arab leader, berating me as a Briton for the gullibility of the group, asked *whether they* knew about the houses that had *been destroyed as well as built* in Gaza and whether the writers *had* been able to *talk* freely to people of the West Bank.

In spite of warnings to keep off politics, Arab leaders con*tinue* to claim to anyone who will listen about arbitrary arrests, *beatings,* attacks on schools, arbitrary courts and heavy fines on demonstrating students. They see Mr Carter's human rights stand as a chance to test his bona fides as a Middle East peacemaker.

Tel Aviv, March 24.—The Israel Government today used emergency regulations to force dockers back to work after a two-day strike which has hit 70 ships in Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat. Cargoes held up include two and a quarter million cases of oranges and grapefruit.

Dockers must now go back to work or face two-year prison sentences or a fine of £I 25,000 (£1,600), or both.—Reuter.

Mr Morarji Desai addressing the press after *being sworn* in as Prime Minister *yesterday.*

'Hindi wallah' reaches the top on fourth attempt

India's fate in hands of ascetic politician mellowed in detention

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, March 24

Mr Morarji Ranchhodji Desai, *the son of a school* teacher, born 81 years ago in *Gujarat, today became* India's Prime Minister after long years in the political wilderness. It was his fourth attempt to win the post.

For the past three years the one-time Finance Minister and Deputy Prime *Minister* in Congress governments had been manoeuvring to bring down Mrs Indira Gandhi after she had repeatedly thwarted his chances to secure the top post in the Congress Party.

When Mrs Gandhi declared a state of emergency in June, 1975, he was one of the first leading political personalities to be arrested. He spent much of *his* 19-month detention in isolation.

Such *facts* convey the force of will and pertinacity which lie deep in the new Prime Minister's character, as well as the essential fact that the Janata (People's) Party coalition he led to victory has its origins in a highly personalized *struggle* with *his* predecessor for the control of the Congress Party "machine".

He will lead the first non-Congress Government of India, but his administration has its origins in Congress splinter *groups.* The *latest secessionist* group, the Congress for *Democracy, is headed by Mr* Jagjivan Ram, his rival in today's contest

Mr Desai's strength of character comes from an iron self-discipline, though in person he is a good deal less for*bidding* than *the* endless stories of his fasting, abstinence, vegetarianism and regular 4 am rising suggest.

Though Indian politicians do not like labels, Mr Desai could perhaps best be described as *above all a pragmatic* politician.

Shortly after taking office today, Mr Desai gave a definition of socialism to which India is committed: "Socialism means freedom from all exploitation and equality of *opportunity. We must create* such traditions in society and *behaviour at the top so that* the exploited and the people are able to withstand it. Education must be such as to give self-confidence, character, and a *sense of service*", he declared.

He favours private enter*prise, though his aides now in*sist that he is "open to new *ideas*". One of the chief issues dividing him and Mrs Gandhi was the nationalizaton of banks.

His preference for growth *with stability,* fear of "adventurous" policies and a cautiousness generally in financial matters, will have to be faced by his Janata Party following.

One of the new Prime Minister's weak points is that he is *seen as a* "*Hindi wallah*" by other linguistic groups, and because of this the Muslims and Harijans (Untouchables) would have preferred Mr Ram.

Bhutto critics reject latest poll talks offer

From Our Correspondent
Rawalpindi, March 24

The Pakistan National Alliance of nine opposition parties today rejected the third *offer of Mr Bhutto, the* Prime Minister, to discuss their complaints of unfairness in the general election.

Mr Maulana Mufti Mahmud, the alliance *president,* repeated opposition demands that Mr *Bhutto should* resign, that the election commission should be dismissed, and the elections, in which Mr Bhutto's People's Party won 150 of the 200 National Assembly seats, be annulled.

The alliance is calling for a general strike and day of protest on Saturday, when the newly-elected National Assembly, which the Opposition is boycotting, will meet.

Meanwhile the Government *has extended the curfew from* tonight to another area in Karachi.

Trophy with human skulls presented to the Queen

Port Moresby, March 24.—*The Queen was today presented* with a headhunter's trophy, complete with heads, during a *mass* "*people's welcome*" at a sports stadium on the shores of Port Moresby harbour.

The *ariba,* or skull rack, probably dates from the early *years of this century* and came from Goaribari Island, the only *place in Papua New Guinea* where missionaries were eaten by cannibals. The Rev James Chalmers, his young assistant and 11 Papuan converts were clubbed *to* death and cooked with sago after being lured into a *men's meeting house on* Goaribari in Western Papua in 1901.

The Queen's *ariba* is about 3ft tall in the shape of a crouching human figure. Tied to its arms are two yellowed *human skulls, the* stuffed head of a hornbill and several hornbill beaks.

The Queen, who arrived here yesterday with the Duke of Edinburgh, presented a new *Queen's Colour* to the Pacific Islands Regiment and walked briefly among the *traditional* dancers who had welcomed her.

She will go tomorrow to Popondetta and Alotau, two privincial centres in East Papua which British royalty has never visited before.

Accra: The Prince of Wales said here that Africa was fast assuming an increasingly vital role in world affairs. "There will be a continuing and growing need for men and women with integrity and moral courage, *who can understand* and accept responsibility", he said yesterday in an address at the University of Ghana.

The Prince was today winding up his eight-day visit to Ghana with a review of a passing-out parade of officer cadets at Ghana's military academy.—Reuter.

Albanian fears in post-Mao world

By Anton Logoreci

In no other country, apart *from China, has Chairman Mao* Tse-tung's death and the subsequent imprisonment of his widow and her radical associates caused such confusion and anxiety as in Albania.

For the past 16 years the country has been wholly dependent on Peking for economic, technical and military aid. At the same time, it has been fully *committed to Maoist revolutionary* doctrines at home and abroad.

Consequently, the downfall of the "Gang of Four" and the unpredictable character of political events in China under the leadership of Mr Hua Kuo-feng have cast a shadow over the Chinese-Albanian alliance.

The coolness of Mr Enver Hoxha, the Albanian leader, towards the new leadership in Peking became evident at the seventh congress of the Albanian Communist Party last November.

In his *address,* Mr Hoxha spoke in general terms about the Chinese alliance but *said* nothing about Mao's successor or the purge of the radicals. This omission was significant as the Albanians had hitherto been *prompt* in vilifying anyone who was in disfavour in Peking.

Mr Hoxha's suspicions about Chinese policy were first aroused by the reconciliation between Peking and Washing*ton in 1972, giving rise to the* suspicion that, if China pursued its *Realpolitik* to its logical come a *pawn* in the Peking-Washington rapprochement.

After *Mao's* death, yet another fear began to haunt the Albanians: the nightmare *that* Chairman Hua or his successors might end *Mao's* unremitting hostility to Moscow, thereby putting at risk the independence of Albania.

Albania has had no relations with Moscow since Nikita Khrushchev expelled it from the Soviet block in 1961, after Mr Hoxha's regime had sided *with the Chinese in the Sino-*Soviet quarrel. Since Khrushchev's *downfall in 1964,* Moscow has put out numerous feelers about renewing diplomatic ties with Albania. But these have been rejected by Tirana.

In an attempt to test Albania's attachment to China after Mao's death, Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, said last October that "there was no objective factor" preventing normal relations between the two countries. Mr Mehmet Shehu, the Albanian Prime Minister, however, made it *plain shortly afterwards that* there was no change in his Government's attitude to Moscow.

The main reason for this blank refusal to have any dealings with Moscow could be the fear that once a Soviet embassy *is* set up in Tirana the KGB would make it a centre of subversion. This *is what in fact* happened in 1960, when Soviet diplomats organized a plot to topple Mr Hoxha. The plot was nipped in the bud, but Mr Hoxha has not forgiven the

Albania's relations with Yugoslavia are even more complex *than its relations with Moscow.* They are riddled with bitter *animosities, both old and new.*

One serious problem is the presence of nearly one and a half million Albanians in the Yugoslav provinces of Kosovo, Macedonia and Montenegro. They were badly treated by prewar Yugoslav governments, but fared little better under Presi*dent Tito's* regime during the early postwar years.

After *its* break with Yugoslavia in 1948, in accordance with *Stalin's* orders, the Albanian regime often complained about the ill-treatment of the Albanians in Yugoslavia. These allegations were proved well-founded when Mr Alexander Rankovic, the Yugoslav Minister of the Interior, was dismissed in 1966 for *having conducted,* among other things, a policy of persecution *against the Albanians.*

What both countries are worried about is that Moscow might attempt to exploit any possible disarray of the post-Tito era. It would be a tragedy if the Russians were allowed to take advantage of the Yugoslav-Albanian deadlock for such a purpose. The fact remains that, despite their differences, the *two countries have one import*ant thing in common: both are totally opposed to Soviet domination and are equally determined to resist it.

Anton Logoreci is the author of The Albanians: Europe's Forgotten Survivors, which was published by Gollancz on February 24.

In brief

Phone call frees conductor

Indianapolis, March 24.—A shoplifting charge against Mr Victor Dubrovsky, conductor of the Oslupov Balalaika Orchestra which is giving concerts in *the United States, has been* dropped after a telephone call from the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

The Embassy told the Indianapolis police that Mr Dubrovsky was "a great Soviet citizen and a *guest in your* country and we demand his release". The conductor had spent six hours in a city prison.

Tibetan hunger strike

Delhi, March 24.—Some 80,000 Tibetan refugees in many countries will go on a *one-day* hunger strike tomorrow in sympathy *with the fast* until death here of seven Tibetans campaigning for human rights in Tibet.

Troops surrender

Khartoum, March 24.—Reports reaching here say that Ethiopian *troops who have been* holding out against Eritrean secessionist guerrillas in a village near Karora on the Sudan border, have surrendered.

Liberal quits party

Canberra, March 24.—Mr Donald Chipp, a former Australian Liberal Party Cabinet minister, has resigned from the *party because he disagreed* with the economic and other *policies* of Mr Fraser, the Liberal Prime Minister.

Back to home waters

Tokyo, March 24.—All Jap*anese fishing boats* operating within the 200-mile Soviet fishing zone will be ordered to return to their home ports this month under a new Soviet-Japanese agreement.

Iran shakes again

Teheran, March 24.—Two more tremors, registering six degrees on the Richter scale, today hit the south-east of Iran, where 130 people died on Tuesday.

Correction:

In a dispatch on the South Korean economy, Peter Hazelhurst, our Special Correspondent in Seoul, reported that *workers on production lines in* the larger sectors of industry earned up to £50 a month. Because of a misprint the figure appeared in early editions of *The Times* of March 22 as £10 a month.

SPORT

Racing

Tudor Jig leads his rivals a dance

By Michael Seely

The biggest crowd to attend the opening day of the flat racing season at Doncaster since 1965 saw Edward Hide ride a masterly tactical race on Tudor Jig to win the Tote Spring Handicap yesterday afternoon.

Drawn Number 6, Hide immediately dropped the three-year-old out and crossed over to the stands rails. Burley and Sealed Brief made the running on the far side of the course, while Bedford Lodge and Claddagh were the most prominent on the near side. Below the distance, Burley was still in the lead with Donzel and Tudor Jig challenging. Inside the last furlong, Tudor Jig went to the front and strode away to beat Donzel by four lengths with Carriage Way two and a half lengths away third.

Trained by Michael Easterby, who last year became the first Northern trainer to win over £100,000 in prize money, Tudor Jig belongs to Sir Edwin McAlpine. Bred by his owner, the colt was sent to the Newmarket October Sales but failed to reach his reserve of 3,000 guineas. Easterby, one of the most noted judges of a yearling in the country, was then offered the horse, but turned it down. Sir Edwin then decided to let Easterby train the colt on his behalf.

There is no doubt that the deciding factor in yesterday's victory was the state of the ground. The times recorded were all well above average, and all the jockeys said that the ground rode extremely dead. Tudor Jig had shown his ability to handle these conditions when winning his last two races as a two-year-old at Teesside Park last autumn.

Provided that the ground does not dry up, Tudor Jig should be hard to beat in his next objective, the Northern Free Handicap at Newcastle on Easter Monday. The three-year-old's 6lb penalty for yesterday's success will raise his weight to 8st 10lb. One of his most formidable opponents may be his stable companion Mrs McArdy, who ran extremely well to finish seventh yesterday.

Although the winner was quietly backed at 12 to 1, the *result proved a blood bath for* those who plunged on Region and *Aspect, a killing for the book*makers and a setback for the forecasters including myself. Pat Eddery reported that Region was never going well in the soft ground, and Aspect was never seen with a chance at any stage of the race. These three-year-old handicaps are hazardous to tamper with until the form has settled down. The most promising performance in yesterday's race was that of Ryan Price's Carriage Way who was running on strongly at the finish.

After the race, Michael Easterby said that he was going to run his good hurdler Peterhof against the champion hurdler, Night Nurse, trained by his brother Peter, in the two-mile, five-furlong Templegate Hurdle at Liverpool next Saturday.

Speculators had started the afternoon on a happier note when La Ville de Rire had narrowly justified 6-5 favouritism in the Silver Jubilee Stakes. Trained by Bill Watts, the 3-year-old was ridden by the stable jockey John Lowe, as his intended partner Joe Mercer was suffering from influenza. As in his victories last year, it was only the colt's courage that pulled him through yesterday. Once again it was an animal trained by Price that showed the most promise for the future from this race.

Hyver Hill, who looked on the burly side in the paddock, cruised into the lead two furlongs from home and it was only the lack of condition that caused him to weaken in the final hundred yards to finish a close fourth. Bill Elsey's Yellow God colt Don, who finished fast to be beaten only a neck, is another name for the notebook. The next race, the St Leger Way Handicap was won by that former rogue, Major Role. Starting at the surprisingly good price of 5-1, Major Role and Geoffrey Lewis looked like a polished version of Lester Piggott and Nijinsky as they strolled past Scarlet Thread entering the last furlong. The gelding's trainer Brian Swift said that he was delighted with the homework of his two Lincoln candidates, last year's winner The Hertford and Nearly New. If they are well-drawn, the Epsom trainer is convinced that both horses must go close tomorrow.

Another trainer who received *encouragement for his prospects* for the big handicap was Bill Marshall after Rolleston had defeated the favourite Lucky Sovereign by *a length in the* March Stakes. "Although home gallops are deceptive, Rolleston cannot live with Spade Guinea at home and I must regard this as a favourable omen for tomorrow", he said.

The first two-year-old race of the season, the Brocklesby Stakes, finished in an easy win for Lime Grove, trained by that amazing character, C. John Hill, a meat importer from Barnstaple. Mr Hill landed a substantial gamble when Mia Saint captured the seller at this meeting last year and some sizable wagers were struck over Lime Grove. Lime Grove, who was Martinmas's first runner, had shown ability on the gallops from the start. "He jumped off into his bridle and toyed with Burley in his first-ever *workout*", Mr Hill said. "I thought that Burley was useless, but after his *good run in the* Spring Handicap, I started to *think that Lime Grove might* have some sort of chance."

Lime Grove will be pulled out again tomorrow to run in the Grey Friars Stakes. Mr Hill, whose assistant trainer is Pat Buckley, has over 50 horses, all owned by himself. When questioned as to the exact number, he replied: "Somewhere around fifty-five, but I hardly ever bother to count them."

At Doncaster this afternoon Oats, who finished third in the Derby and fourth in the St Leger last season for Peter Walwyn, has an apparently simple task in the French Gate Stakes. Oats, who has wintered well, should win this with ease en route to his first important test in the Jockey Club Stakes on April 28.

In the Waterdale Handicap States, Walwyn runs Mar Greig, who showed plenty of speed winning minor races at Leicester and Ayr last season. But Donzel's running in the big race yesterday suggests that Guy Harwood's string are well forward and I am taking that tough character, Our Jimmy, who won four of his 12 races as a two-year-old, to defy top weight.

The soft ground specialist Lochranza, who is fit from hurdling, is suggested as the best bet of the day in the Northern Handicap Stakes. Another sound wager could be the Irish challenger, Rare Trial, in the Brooke Bond Cup for amateur riders. Rare Trial, who will be ridden by Timmy Jones, of Gay Future fame, ran well against *top class company last season* and should prove too good for his *opponents this afternoon.*

The Lincoln Handicap Sales which started yesterday evening at Doncaster were devoted entirely to two-year-olds in training. This was an innovation for the sales company; they were selling horses that had been in training for six months but as yet unraced, on similar lines to the American Sales.

Top price of the session was 6,200 guineas given by a cash purchaser for Miracle Bid, a son of Miracle. This colt made only 840 guineas at the Newmarket Sales last autumn.

After a protracted duel between Eric Cousins and the BBA representative Cousins secured a taking *Lorenzaccio filly for 6,000 guineas.* The Cheshire trainer will *handle this strongly-made filly for Robert* Sangster.

The auction, although hardly comparing with the American sales, was on the whole a great success. During the evening, 33 lots were sold for 91,340 guineas, an average of 2,767 guineas.

Agreement on doping

Representatives of 16 nations have reached unanimous agreement on anti-doping procedures at the International Conference on Doping in Rome. Their resolutions based on proposals by the British Jockey Club, will be recommended to *individual* racing authorities. One recommendation asserts: "*It is against the* basic *interests of the sport to differ*entiate between medication and doping of racehorses."

Trainer to answer

The Basingstoke trainer Jack Holt will face a Jockey Club inquiry next Monday into the running of his hurdler Mourndyke, after the success of the gelding at Kempton Park in February. A comfortable winner when clear favourite in a three-mile handicap, Mourndyke had been unplaced in five previous outings at shorter trips.

STATE OF GOING (official): Doncaster: Soft. Devon and Exeter: Soft. Newbury (tomorrow): Hurdles, soft; *steeplechase,* good to soft. Bangor-on-Dee (tomorrow): Soft (heavy patches). Hexham (tomorrow): Back straight, *heavy*; stands side, soft (Steward inspection if further rain).

Doncaster programme

[Television (IBA): 2.35, 3.05 and 3.35 races]

2.0 OPENING STAKES (*2-y-o : £826 : 5f*)
102 **Comerce** (W. Stephenson), W. Stephenson, 8-11 D. Ryan 2
104 **Market Stranger** (W. Marshall), W. Marshall, 8-11 R. Marshall 6
105 **Our Qualm** (A. Smith), A. Smith, 8-11 .... B. Henty 5
106 **Paddy-One-Row** (W. Lonsdale), J. Vickers, 8-11 A. Meaney 10
108 **Follifoot's Folly** (C. Hill), C. Hill, 8-8 ...... G. Starkey 1
109 **Hautarelle** (J. Fox), T. Fairhurst, 8-8 .... C. Eccleston 11
111 **Quick Away** (G. Richards), G. Richards, 8-8 .... M. Birch 3
112 **Ritaliz** (W. Wharton), W. Wharton, 8-8 ...... P. Eddery 8
113 **Scattercash** (A. Burgess), R. Stubbs, 8-8 .. M. L. Thomas 9
114 **Stoneywell** (R. Hollinshead), R. Hollinshead, 8-8 .. T. Ives 4
115 **Tesano** (E. Irwin), J. Vickers, 8-8 .... P. Madden 7
9-4 *Market Stranger*, 7-2 *Follifoot's Folly*, 9-2 Ritaliz, 6-1 Hautarelle, 8-1 Quick Away, 10-1 Stoneywell, 12-1 Comerce, 14-1 others.

2.35 NORTHERN HANDICAP (£1,666 : 1½m)
201 04- **Ranksborough** (T. Lyons), P. Arthur, 5-10-0 .... E. Hide 4
202 010200- **Plenty Spirit** (D) (I. Perratt), W. Gray, 4-9-13 .. E. Apter 1
204 010220- **Lochranza** (D) (H. Michael), E. Carr, 6-8-11 L. Charnock 5 3
207 **Imperial Family** (Mrs J. Gifford), J. Gifford, 4-8-6 B. Taylor 6
208 221402- **Rough River** (D,S) (Mrs G. Spink), Hbt Jones, 4-7-13 W. Carson 2
210 214032- **Nation Wide** (H. Wragg), H. Wragg, 4-7-9 .... S. Parr 7 5
211 041001- **Solo Reign** (D) (Mrs H. Taylor), R. Hollinshead, 4-7-8 M. Wigham 7 8
213 021- **Jacyking** (A. Ngan), S. Hall, 4-7-7 .... E. Johnson 9
214 23- **Baltic Love** (C. Booth), S. Mellor, 5-7-7 ...... D. McKay 7
3-1 Lochranza, 4-1 Nation Wide, 11-2 Ranksborough, 6-1 Solo Reign, Jacyking, 10-1 Rough River, 12-1 Plenty Spirit, 14-1 Baltic Love, 20-1 Imperial Family.

3.05 BROOKE BOND DIVIDEND D CUP (£1,036 : 1½m)
301 113223- **Ardent Portion** (Mrs S. Bard), G. Harwood, 7-11-2 Miss L. Savage 15
303 000040- **Pave the Way** (A. Cope), D. Weeden, 6-11-2 .. *Mr A. Cope* 16
304 000003- **Kushbehar** (A. Sims), F. Wiles, 4-10-13 .... Mrs E. Wiles 4
305 02310- **Destino** (C-D) (H. Wragg), H. Wragg, 6-10-12 Miss C. Mercer 13
306 022- **Hipparion** (B) (W. Palmer), S. Mellor, 5-10-12 Mrs E. Mellor 18
307 420204- **Lucky Seventeen** (P. Zeisel), D. Weeden, 5-10-12 Miss D. Weeden 11
309 00- **St Barnabas** (R. Gilling), Mrs Finch, 7-10-12 *Mr D. Hinks* 10
310 001030- **Vivar** (J. Ferguson), G. Richards, 4-10-12 .. Mr E. Collins 21
312 304420- **Croisette** (G. Reed), S. Hall, 5-10-9 ...... Mr C. Platts 19
313 100000- **Balranald** (A. Kiddie), H. Westbrook, 5-10-8 Miss J. Woodward 14
315 **Devil's Passage** (B) (J. Thornton), D. Williams, 5-10-8 — 23
316 001140- **Fireslik** (C-D) (A. Tenty), G. Balding, 6-10-8 Mr. A. J. Wilson 17
317 0000- **Glenpatrick** (B) (N. Ridge), R. Bastiman, 6-10-8 Mr N. Ridge 3
319 310000- **Gold Streak** (A. Johnson), A. Johnson, 5-10-8 Mr H. Orde-Powlett 22
320 **King Caspar** (A. Perry), W. Swainson, 7-10-8 Miss C. Blackwell 2
323 010030- **Rare Trial** (L. Golb), P. Prendergast, 4-10-8 Mr T. A. Jones 1
325 000032- **Drumadell** (G Gladstone), P. Wigham, 5-10-5 Mr K. Scott 12
326 001- **Flying Fable** (S. Griffith), A. Smith, 4-10-5 .. Miss H. Jack 7
330 0000- **Hot Venture** (B), (R. Lancaster), T. Kersey, 4-10-3 Miss B. Kersey 6
331 00000- **Lowland Cavalier** (W. Kendrick), R. Hollinshead, 4-10-3 Miss S. Hollinshead 20
332 **Master Davenport** (Mrs R. Woodhouse), B. Thompson, 5-10-3 *Miss J. Thorne* 9
335 00- **Sweet Slievenamon** (J. Irvine), S. Nesbitt, 6-10-0 Mr A. Etler 24
336 00300- **Sygnome** (Mrs C. Brittain), C. Brittain, 4-10-0 Miss J. Feilden 8
4-1 Destino, 9-2 Rare Trial, 5-1 Croisette, 6-1 Lucky Seventeen, Hipparion, 8-1 Ardent Portion, 10-1 Vivar, 12-1 Fireslik, 16-1 Sygnome, 20-1 others.

3.35 WATERDALE HANDICAP (*3-y-o : £2,787 : 6f*)
401 041123- **Our Jimmy** (D) (A. Nicholls), G. Harwood, 9-7 G. Starkey 4
403 027440- **Jameson** (J. Ashby), W. Wharton, 8-12 ...... W. Carson 5
404 021230- **Hot Heir** (P. Guest), M. W. Easterby, 8-8 ...... E. Hide 6
405 010- **Union Card** (Mrs H. Lawson), G. Hunter, 8-7 .. B. Rouse 7
406 011440- **Mar Greig** (H. Keswick), P. Walwyn, 8-6 ...... P. Eddery 3
408 00210- **Chartered Lady** (D) (Mrs P. Boullon), D. Keith, 7-12 B. Jago 1
409 010- **Just For You** (C. Hill), C. Hill, 7-1 .... S. Jarvis 7 2
410 044000- **Plastic Cup** (A. Richards), D. Hanley, 7-0 C. Rodrigues 5 8
11-4 *Our Jimmy*, *100-30 Mar Greig*, 4-1 *Hot Heir*, 6-1 *Jameson*, 8-1 Chartered Lady, 10-1 Union Card, 12-1 *Just For You*, 16-1 Plastic Cup.

4.05 FRENCH GATE STAKES (£1,668 : 1m 2f 50yd)
501 410219- **Level Par** (N. Angus), N. Angus, 4-9-4 .... E. Hide 10
502 213224- **Oats** (A. Oldrey), P. Walwyn, 4-9-4 .... P. Eddery 3
503 0010- **Can Run** (J. Rose), D. Gandolfo, 4-9-1 ...... J. Reid 5 6
504 003240- **Early Dawn** (D. Robinson), M. Jarvis, 4-9-1 .. B. Raymond 1
505 023040- **Seadiver** (Lady Rotherwick), T. Forster, 4-9-1 .. G. Starkey 9
506 043- **Captain Flash** (R. Moller), H. Wragg, 4-8-13 .... B. Taylor 6
507 **King Sitric** (D. Page), J. Walker, 4-8-13 .... A. Bond 2
508 02- **Joshua's Daughter** (M. Hoaren), Mrs Finch, 4-8-10 R. J. Owen 4
511 442021- **Westwood Boy** (R. Wilson), W. Gray, 3-8-0 .... E. Apter 11
512 03100- **Qualuz** (Sir P. Oppenheimer), H. Wragg, 3-7-11 .. R. Fox 8
514 0- **Irish Post** (Cheveley Park Stud), B. Lunness, 3-7-9 G. Duffield 7
4-6 Oats, 5-1 Level Par, 8-1 Seadiver, 10-1 Early Dawn, 12-1 Qualuz, Captain Flash, 16-1 others.

4.35 HALL GATE HANDICAP (£1,800 : 7f)
601 211100- **Berkeley Square** (D) (A. Nicholls), G. Harwood, 5-10-4 G. Starkey 8
602 111000- **Glorified** (D) (Mrs G. Fane), J. Bethell, 4-9-13 B. Raymond 7
603 401010- **Peranka** (C. Allen), W. Marshall, 5-9-11 .... R. Marshall 17
604 010430- **Shuffling** (C) (T. Corby), W. Wharton, 6-9-3 .. F. Morby 6
605 102200- **Cudgel** (Mrs J. Bissill), P. Rohan, 4-9-2 .. N. Troup 7 5
606 **Suncharmer** (W. McConnell), N. Vigors, 4-9-1 .... P. Cook 11
607 0000- **Zoroaster** (P. Bull), B. Hills, 4-8-11 .... E. Johnson 16
610 100203- **The Goldstone** (D) (Mrs S. Pakenham), W. Wightman, 5-8-4 R. Baker 5 4
612 340324- **Garden Party** (D) (*Photomarkets*), A. Stevens, 5-7-12 S. Perks 18
613 432002- **Gold Loom** (Mrs V. Gray), W. Gray, 8-7-12 .... E. Apter 15
614 000341- **Coded Scrap** (C) (C. H. Newton Jnr Ltd), T. Fairhurst, 4-7-11 C. Eccleston 3
616 440100- **Rel-des-Toits** (G. Bloor), E. Collingwood, 3-7-8 .. R. Still 12
617 300040- **Hotcakes** (Mrs R. Fitzpatrick), G. Blum, 4-7-7 M. L. Thomas 10
618 040400- **Hot Shot** (W. C. Watts), W. C. Watts, 5-7-7 D. Nicholls 5 1
619 242002- **Miss Kung Fu** (Mrs R. Tang), R. Supple, 4-7-7 .. J. Lowe 15
620 00041- **Vidkun** (R. Baker), Denys Smith, 5-7-7 .... L. Charnock 5 19
621 000000- **Crown Major** (D) (B. Grove), M. Bolton, 8-7-7 W. Wharton 7 14
622 000000- **Vibrate** (A. Richards), A. Richards, 4-7-7 .. C. Rodrigues 5 2
624 200400- **Ascot Royale** (R. Mason), R. Mason, 6-7-7 .... S. Jarvis 7 9
6-1 Zoroaster, 11-2 Glorified, 6-1 Berkeley Square, 7-1 The Goldstone, Coded Scrap, 8-1 Gold Loom, Peranka, 12-1 Shuffling, Cudgel, 14-1 Garden Party, 16-1 others.

Devon and Exeter programme

2.15 KENTON HURDLE (Div I : 4-y-o novices : £340 : 2m 40y
3 00 **Ambitious**, I. Dudgeon, 10-10 .... R. Lloyd
5 00 **Bicoque**, W. Sleeman, 10-10 .... Mr C. Sleeman
6 234000 **Boltby**, P. Butler, 10-10 .... P. Butler
11 00 **Crisp Return**, C. James, 10-10 .... G. Nicho
12 00 **Fury Spirit**, J. Haine, 10-10 .... R. Mangan
13 040302 **Game David**, D. Barons, 10-10 .... P. Le
16 **Golden Lava**, D. Barons, 10-10 .... M. Burt
17 **Golden Rat**, N. Brooks, 10-10 .... J. Sc
20 000000 **Keenu**, L. Kennard, 10-10 .... R. F.
22 p **Le Moles**, J. Harvey, 10-10 .... J. Barlow
27 2 **Non Drinker**, J. Webber, 10-10 .... R. Edmond
29 0 **Point Lookout**, M. Pipe, 10-10 .... R. Atk
32 **Salvo Star**, V. Cross, 10-10 .... J. K
35 0 **Sundari**, F. Winter, 10-10 .... J. Franc
36 0p **Tarnish**, Mrs E. Kennard, 10-10 .... P. Richard
7-4 Game David, 4-1 Non Drinker, 11-2 Fury Spirit, 8-1 Sundari, 1 Golden Lava, 12-1 Ambitious, Boltby 14-1 others.

2.45 FOXTOR STEEPLECHASE (Handicap : £811 : 2m 3f)
1 444133 **Dancing Ned**, T. Forster, 9-12-5 .... G. Thor
4 320220 **Bit of Manny** (C-D), Miss S. Morris, 8-11-7 .... B.
6 1f-f3p1 **Lucky Victory** (C), J. Baker, 8-11-4 ....
7 0-12 **Chatham**, H. Trigg, 13-11-0 .... Mrs N. Le
8 240ppp **Pensive Prince**, D. Barons, 9-10-13 .... B. R. De
11 21f-pp0 **Galloway Fabulous** (C), J. Reddaway, 10-10-11 Miss K. Hals
13 30-44fu **Eagle Feather**, J. Cann, 8-10-4 .... J.
15 13-00p0 **Joint Account** (C-D), N. Ayliffe, 9-10-2 .... Mr M. Ayliffe
18 304-0f0 **Quick Result**, T. Hallett, 6-10-0 .... T. Hallett
19 2-4fupu **Rosey Outlook** (C-D), D. Barons, 9-10-0 .... P. Le
20 0-p00pu **Dunany Point** (D), Mrs N. Coombs, 14-10-0 .. Mr M.
5-2 Dancing Ned, 100-30 Lucky Victory, 5-1 Bit of Manny, 6-1 Chatham, 8 Eagle Feather, 10-1 Galloway Fabulous, 14-1 Pensive Prince, 20-1 others.

3.15 WOODBURY HURDLE (Handicap : £711 : 3m 1f)
5 110000 **Tessie's Boy** (C-D), M. Oliver, 7-11-2 .... Mr J. Weston
6 0200p4 **Mac's Birthday**, F. Gorman, 10-11-1 .... Mr R. Wil
8 0-40000 **Colondine** (C), I. Dudgeon, 10-10-11 .... R. Ll
10 000030 **Keening**, C. Bewicke, 8-10-5 .... Maj R. Faulkner
11 0-00011 **Carrie Ann** (C), M. Pipe, 5-10-6 .... J.
14 00004p **Kastrup**, D. Barons, 10-10-1 .... D. Cart
17 0-p00 **Paymaster** (C), D. Barons, 6-10-0 .... P. Le
18 0030p0 **Verdi** (C-D), J. Cobden, 8-10-0 .... S.
19 00-0000 **Ronnell Tiffin**, P. Kearney, 10-10-0 .... S. Pa
21 0-0 **Regal Flight**, L. Merson, 7-10-0 .... P. Richards
23 000 **Regent's Park**, R. Griffiths, 9-10-0 .... R. B
25 00000-0 **Tregony Fells**, H. Wakeham, 10-10-0 .... M. Barr
26 00 **Cannabis**, J. Thorne, 9-10-0 .... P. Ha
28 00 **Marine Parade**, M. Pipe, 7-10-0 .... R. At
29 000000 **Bettys Pride**, M. Oliver, 7-10-0 .... Mr J. Wor
30 2-00000 **Double Crown** (C), F. Coats, 10-10-0 .... Mrs J.
31 f0p **Nicholls Folly**, N. Ayliffe, 8-10-0 .... Mr M. Ay
32 03-0400 **Brooklyn**, W. Sleeman, 5-10-0 .... Mr C. Sleeman
4-1 Mac's Birthday, 9-2 Carrie Ann, 5-1 Tessie's Boy, 6-1 Keening, Colondine, 10-1 Kastrup, 12-1 Verdi, Marine Parade, 16-1 others.

3.45 DAW VALE HURDLE (Handicap : £418 : 2m 40yd)
1 p0 **Court God**, I. Gibbons, 6-13-0 .... J. Keog
3 00 **Lady Jay**, D. Wintle, 4-12-1 .... Mr A. Walk
4 400210 **Blighty**, D. Gandolfo, 6-11-5 .... P. B
8 00-0000 **Candy Fire**, H. Webb, 6-10-10 .... L. Griffi
11 000f0p **Nan's Glow**, T. H. Smith, 5-10-7 .... Mr A. Wil
12 040010 **Hello Sailor**, J. Haine, 6-10-6 .... C. Bro
16 0-000 **Nan's Gem**, J. Baker, 6-10-3 .... S.
17 010004 **Merry Leap**, M. McCourt, 4-10-2 .... G. McCo
20 p0-0000 **Kandinsky**, O. O'Neill, 6-10-0 .... K. Sa
21 00044 **Saffron Princess**, L. Kennard, 5-10-0 .... F. Mc
22 000f00 **Monks Express**, R. Keenor, 5-10-0 .... J. W
24 f000 **Gretta's Girl**, D. Wintle, 4-10-0 .... R. Gardi
25 404200 **Prince Carlos**, D. Wintle, 4-10-0 .... R.
27 000030 **Abbey Farm**, V. Lay, 5-10-0 .... Mrs N.
28 00-p0 **Moon Base**, F. King, 5-10-0 .... B. Fle
29 s0up-0 **Western Tangle**, W. Sleeman, 6-10-0 .... Mr C. Slee
30 f-000b **Poignard**, T. Fowler, 5-10-0 .... P.
31 0000- **Noerrum**, J. Bosley, 6-10-0 .... S. Do
7-2 Blighty, 4-1 Hello Sailor, 9-2 Merry Leap, 5-1 Saffron Princess, Prince Carlos, 10-1 Lady Jay, 12-1 Nan's Gem, 14-1 others.

4.15 TOM CUNDY STEEPLECHASE (£510 : 3m 1f)
1 22-23 **Devon Spirit** (D), Mrs D. Pook, 12-12-7 .... Mr K.
2 10-10 **Dusky May**, A. Wates, 9-12-7 .... Mr A. W
3 131-f **Evens Bar** (C-D), A. Frank, 9-12-7 .... Mr D.
8 pupf00 **Hawaiian Maiden**, H. Wakeham, 8-11-12 .. Mr P. Wake
10 f-f **Joe's Farewell** (D), M. Ogle, 9-11-12 .... Mr J.
11 p0001-f **Panmure**, M. Churches, 7-11-12 .... Mr R. Trel
12 p1- **Sauron** (C), Mrs R. Orchard, 9-11-12 .... Mr R.
15 ff **Banking Lad**, Miss J. Hook, 8-11-2 .... Mr R. B
17 f **Bookie's Opinion**, L. Tizzard, 11-11-2 .... Mr A. Ti
18 **Conchita II**, R. Nicholls, 6-11-2 .... Mr K. B
19 2p3 **Cross Colonist**, P. Dufosee, 9-11-2 .... Mr J. B
20 3-0fu **Fiord**, C. Bewicke, 7-11-2 .... Maj R. Fau
21 **Fourpenny**, Mrs R. Fell, 9-11-2 .... Mr N.
22 0- **Professor Higgins**, R. Keenor, 11-11-2 .... Mr G.
23 **Silver Ransom**, Mrs J. Peck, 8-11-2 .... Mrs J.
24 0 **Transmitter**, D. Duplessis, 9-11-2 ....
2-1 Panmure, 5-2 Conchita II, 3-1 Dusky May, 8-1 Devon Spirit, 12-1 Bar, 14-1 Sauron, 16-1 others.

4.45 KENTON HURDLE (Div II : *4-y-o novices : £340 : 2m*
1 301003 **Harvest Bounty**, J. Cann, 11-6 .... S.
2 2001 **Satan Power**, Mrs E. Kennard, 11-6 .... P. Ric
3 0p00 **Alba Rattar**, L. Kennard 10-10 .... C.
5 **Bellentina**, I. Dudgeon, 10-10 .... R.
6 3 **Belton Cottage**, D. Barons, 10-10 .... B. R.
9 04 **Firs Park**, F. Winter, 10-10 .... Mr N. He
14 0000 **Lawrence Johnston**, D. Barons, 10-10 .... P.
15 340023 **Pasquabond**, F. Muggeridge, 10-10 .... T. Mugg
21 00200 **Regent Dancer**, D. Barons, 10-10 .... M. Bo
25 p0 **Sylver Mark**, T. Hallett, 10-10 .... T. Ha
28 0 **Wings of Spring**, I. Wardle, 10-10 .... S. Smith
3-1 Satan Power, 7-2 Firs Park, 9-2 Belton Cottage, 6-1 Harvest Boun Regent Dancer, 10-1 Pasquabond, 12-1 Lawrence Johnston, 16-1 others.

Devon and Exeter selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.15 Non Drinker. 2.45 Dancing Ned. 3.15 *Carrie Ann.* 3.45 Sailor. 4.15 Devon Spirit. 4.45 Satan Power.

Doncaster selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.0 Follifoot's Folly. 2.35 LOCHRANZA *is specially recom* 3.5 Rare Trial. 3.35 Our Jimmy. 4.5 Oats. 4.35 Coded Scrap.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Market Stranger. 3.5 Destino. 4.5 Qualuz. 4.35 Hotcakes.

Doncaster results

2.0 (2.01) SILVER JUBILEE STAKES (3-y-o: £3,385: 6f)
La Ville de Rire, ch c, by Town Crier—French Laughter (F. Walker), 9-6 .. J. Lowe (6-5 fav) 1
Dée .... E. Hide (12-1) 2
Champagne Willie J. Lynch (6-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-2 Hyver Hill (4th), 7-1 Fairly Hot, 14-1 *Snap Happy*, 50-1 Seafields. 7 ran.
Tote: Win, 25p; places, 13p, 37p; dual forecast, £1.06. J. W. Watts, at Richmond. Nk, ½l. 1min 19.31sec.

2.30 (2.33) LEGER WAY HANDICAP (£2,147: 1m 2f 50yd)
Major Role, ch h, by Major Portion—Ysolda (B. Shine), 7-8-1 G. Lewis (5-1) 1
Scarlet Thread .... P. Cook (10-1) 2
Doubly Hopeful M. Simmonite (7-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Shurwalman, 7-1 *Gold Claim* (4th), 12-1 Mantop, Whirlow Green, Flameproof, Shine On, 16-1 French Harmony, 33-1 Mr *Mellors*, 50-1 *Same as Tom.* 12 ran.
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 27p, 40p, 20p. B. Swift, at Epsom. 4l, 5l. 2min 20.44sec.

3.0 (3.3) TOTE SPRING HANDICAP (3-y-o: £4,887: 7f)
Tudor Jig, b c, by Tudor Melody—*Conflagration* (Sir E. McAlpine), 8-10 .... E. Hide (12-1) 1
Donzel .... W. Carson (11-1) 2
Carriage Way .. B. Taylor (14-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Region, 9-1 Aspect, 10-1 Bedford Lodge, Arctic Tribune, 14-1 Claddagh, Mrs McArdy, 16-1 Red Johnnie, Riboss, 18-1 Merry Musketeer, 20-1 Bedlam Hill, Stephendre, 33-1 Caernarvon King (4th), Burley, Godlie, Sealed Brief, *Guard* Duty, Gold Pearl, Never Say Guy. 21 ran.
TOTE: Win £1.06, places, 22p, 34p, 61p, £1.06. M. W. Easterby, at Flaxton. 4l, 2½l. 1min 33.52sec (hand start).

3.30 MARCH STAKES (3-y-o: £2,223: 1m)
Rolleston, ch c, by Communication—Chamolive (Mrs O. Bunker), 9-0 ...... R. Marshall (20-1) 1
Lucky Sovereign, B. Taylor (7-4 fav) 2
Gleaming Wave, M. Simmonite (18-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 13-2 Alexander The Great, 7-1 Do Better, 11-1 Nicoloma, 14-1 Love From Verona, 16-1 Solchella, 20-1 Dust-Up, Kilroy Valeur, 25-1 Mummy's Star, 33-1 Reppin Castle (4th), Allyro, 50-1 Boucher *Garcon*, Mosolongi, *Mr* Representer. 16 ran. Catchwood, The God Daughter did not run.
TOTE: Win, £1.18; places, 26p, 14p, 31p. W. Marshall, at Newmarket. 1l, 3l. 1min 49.88sec.

4.0 (4.3) BROCKLESBY STAKES (2-y-o: £2,236)
Lime Grove, b c, by Martinmas—Laburnum Grove (G. Hill), 8-11 G. Starkey (10-1) 1
Frimley Park .. J. Rowe (33-1) 2
Vale of Kent .. S. Eccles (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Saintly One (4th), 6-1 Roh-Fab, 13-2 Sarard, 8-1 Great Appeal, 10-1 Golden Libra, 12-1 High Roller, Bow Bells, 16-1 Slitherum, 20-1 Maygus, Bustani, Chanukah, Oakenash, Pure Purple, Telecommunication, Zebra Crossing. 18 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.40; places, 60p, £4.75, 54p. C. Hill, at Barnstaple. 5l, 3l. 1min 6.21sec.

4.30 (4.34) WILL SCOTT HANDICAP (£1,766: 1m 6f 127yd)
Prince of Pleasure, b c, by Saintly Song—*Counsel's Opinion* (G. Harwood), 4-7-11 M. L. Thomas (11-2) 1
Teny ...... W. Carson (2-1 fav) 2
Soldier Rose .. B. Taylor
ALSO RAN: 10-1 Alverton, *Wagon*, 12-1 Ben Donachan, Ventrex, 15-1 Hill Station, *Apple of My Eye* (4th), *High and Low*, Seven the, 33-1 Loong Koi, Amber, Jeff, Lin Shipper. 17 ran.
TOTE: Win, 87p; places, 20p, 37p. N. Callaghan, market. 1½l, ½l. 3min
TOTE DOUBLE: *Tudor* Grove, £9.55 (Paid on first TREBLE: Major Role, *Prince of Pleasure*, £82.60.

Worcester

2.0: 1, Island Mist (10-1); 2, New City (9-1); 3, Lloyd Ardua (20-1). New Bee (7-4 fav). 16 ran.
2.30: 1, Alpenstock (7-2); 2, Jimmy Miff (4-1); 3, Velvet King (6-1). Regal Choice (9-4 fav). 7 ran.
3.0: 1, Weldyknow (100-30 jt fav); 2, Linkenholt (18-1); 3, Cabar Feidh (6-1). Tara Dream (100-30 jt fav). 11 ran.
3.30: 1, Sybil (7-2); 2, Bourdon (4-1); 3, Mr Rusty (20-1). Alge (3-1 fav). 7 ran. My Sunshine did not run.
4.0: 1, Bobette (9-4 fav); 2, Good Prospect (5-2); 3, Super Saxon (15-2). 7 ran.
4.30: 1, Gentle Knight (11-4); 2, Duckdown (9-4 fav); 3, Pall Tavi (33-1). 12 ran.
TOTE DOUBLE: Weldyknow, Bobette, £16.70. TREBLE: Alpenstock, Sybil, Gentle Knight, £9.25.

Taunton

2.15: 1, Wambden Hill; Go-Over (7-2); 3, Flicking (7-4). Sixer (11-4 fav).
2.45: 1, Millhaire (8-1); Blaze (12-1); 3, Dedi (7- Fairy (5-4 fav). 22 ran.
3.15: 1, Comedians (7-4); (13-2); 3, King's Hazard (9- ran.
3.45: 1, King's Favourite Master Vesuvius (2-1 fav); *scope* (6-1). 10 ran.
4.15: 1, Princess Arcade Landslide (6-1); 3, Silversmi *fav*). 16 ran. Spring Storm run.
4.45: 1, Lampshade (8-1); Contract (4-5 fav); 3, Ban (9-2). 8 ran.
TOTE DOUBLE: Comedians. *TREBLE:* Arcade, £11. Kings Favourite, Lampshade.

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SPORT

Rugby Union

Lions party more Welsh than ever

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Phil Bennett, who led Wales to the triple crown, yesterday won the accolade of being appointed captain of the British Isles team to tour New Zealand this summer. He will lead a party of 30 players who include a record number of 16 Welshmen—two more than toured there under John Dawes in 1971—six Englishmen, five Scots and three Irishmen.

One of the last named will be Gibson, who is due, at the age of 34, to equal the record of his countryman, McBride, by participation in his fifth Lions tour. At the other end of the scale, there will be two uncapped Welsh backs in Brynmor Williams, at scrum half, and Elgan Rees, on a wing, as well as Gareth Evans, the Newport centre, who won his only cap when replacing Gerald Davies, on the wing, in the France-Wales game in Paris this season. The selection of the 23-year-old Evans, who scored a postwar record of 22 tries for his club last season, may be said to be the only surprise the selectors have sprung.

Of the Welsh pack who played against Scotland last weekend, only the flank forward, Burgess, misses out, but the choice for his position of Trevor Evans, who suffered a serious shoulder injury against Ireland in their first international of the season, squares off the Welsh contingent at eight forwards and eight backs. Considering that Gareth Edwards, John P. R. Williams and Gerald Davies were all unavailable, the principality can have no cause for complaint. There will be less rejoicing in Scotland, who find that Renwick, Gammell, Biggar and McLauchlan have been omitted. And Ireland will be distressed that Wheel has been chosen at lock in preference to Keane.

Two former Lions, Slattery (Ireland) and Dixon (England), would surely have been selected had they been available. The same, I am sure, applies to another English international, Hignell, but in the end the selectors must have decided that they could not wait for him to finish his degree examinations at Cambridge, which will not be completed until early June. In his absence, the choice of the second full-back to Irvine has fallen upon another Scot, Hay, who had an unhappy game in the wind against Australia last season but by all accounts played with much bravery and security when touring New Zealand with Scotland in 1975. These qualities are desirable in full backs, and nowhere more so than in New Zealand.

The wheel has come full circle for Bennett, who in January last year found himself relegated to third place among Welsh stand-off half backs. I believe the selectors originally hoped to appoint a forward as captain for a tour where forward play is the name of the game, but in spite of the latest medical report doubts inevitably have persisted about Uttley's troublesome back. Bennett's play for Wales this season has not suffered from the cares of captaincy, and he ought to do a fine job for the Lions. The only doubt, perhaps, is whether he has the capacity to lift the morale of his side when things are going badly. His own morale, needless to report, was in good shape yesterday. "Leading Wales was the pinnacle of my career", he said. "This is the icing on the cake."

The Englishmen, Burton, Beaumont and Rafter also may all consider themselves unlucky to "miss the cut". Neary must have satisfied the selectors when recalled for one game this season, against Ireland, that he can graft, grapple and tackle as well as show his undoubted pace and ball-playing qualities on the open side flank (not to mention his ball winning capacity at the line-out). Slattery played there in all four Lions internationals in South Africa, but Neary ran him close.

Gordon Brown, with five Lions caps, no doubt was a first choice at lock in spite of missing Scotland's international season, and there is no surprise in the choice of the prime jumpers, Horton and Martin, alongside him. Three Welshmen, Cobner, Evans and Quinnell, have been nominated as flank forwards, with Uttley and Duggan, of Ireland, as the official No 8s. The presence of Quinnell and Uttley, both of whom can fill three positions, will bring a handy flexibility.

Windsor and Wheeler annex the hooking positions, as expected, and the selectors have resisted the temptation of taking Cotton as a loose head prop (where he can always play if needed); Cotton is elected on the tight head side, with Price. Another Welshman, Clive Williams, who replaced the injured Faulkner for the England game and held the position against Scotland, will be loose head along with Orr, of Ireland.

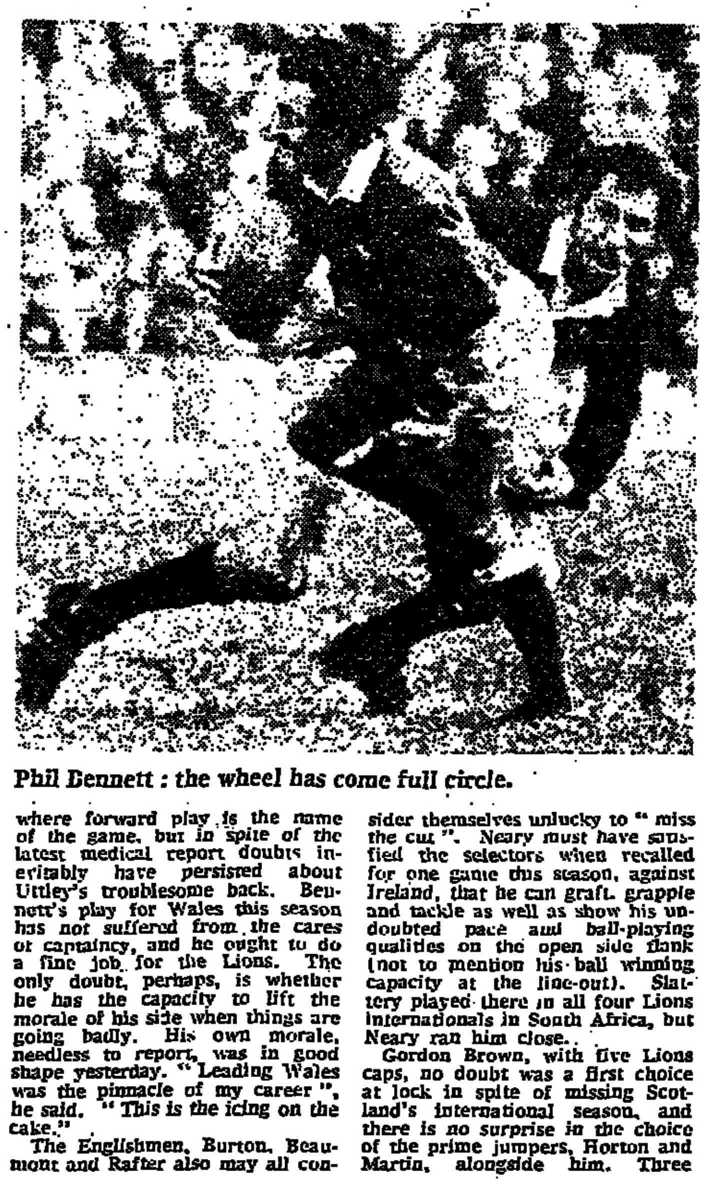
The choice of Bevan, first reserve for Wales at stand-off, and of Brynmor Williams, likewise at scrum-half, was predictable. The game that Morgan had at scrum-half for Wales against Scotland doubtless helped to tilt the scales his way rather than towards another Welshman, Shell. The absence of Hignell means the loss of a third choice cover for a tough position.

Versatility is a welcome keynote among the backs, too, because Irvine can play on the wing (where he did so in South Africa), and at least two of the five centres nominated, Gibson and McGeechan, are accomplished stand-offs. Fenwick and Gibson were sure selections in the middle. Burcher has been preferred to Gravell, the powerful Llanelli centre whom he replaced this season. All the centres chosen are shrewd users of the ball, which is what Dawes wants.

Only three wings, John J. Williams, Squires and Rees, have been chosen, but Gareth Evans has played in that position in excellent company.

The fortunes of the 1977 Lions will be largely dependent on how their forwards fare. No pack is likely to outruck the All Blacks, but this assembly looks, on paper, to have a sound chance of proving itself superior in scrummage and maul and at least of matching the opposition at the lineout. And, in goal kicking, the Lions with Bennett, Irvine, Fenwick and Martin, look splendidly breeched.

The team meet in London on May 6, depart on May 10 and have a week in New Zealand before the opening game.



Phil Bennett : the wheel has come full circle.

British Isles party for N Zealand

FULL BACKS: A. R. Irvine† (Heriot's F. P. and Scotland), B. H. Hay (Boroughmuir and Scotland).

WINGS: H. E. Rees (Neath), P. J. Squires (Harrogate and England), J. J. Williams† (Llanelli and Wales).

CENTRES: C. M. H. Gibson* (NIFC and Ireland), S. P. Fenwick (Bridgend and Wales), D. H. Burcher (Newport and Wales), I. R. McGeechan (Headingley and Scotland), G. L. Evans (Newport and Wales).

STAND-OFF HALVES: P. Bennett† (Llanelli and Wales, captain), J. D. Bevan (Aberavon and Wales).

SCRUM HALVES: D. W. Morgan (Stewart's-Melville F. P. and Scotland), D. B. Williams (Cardiff).

PROPS: F. E. Cotton† (Sale and England), P. A. Orr (Old Wesley and Ireland), G. Price (Pontypool and Wales), C. Williams (Aberavon and Wales).

HOOKERS: R. W. Windsor† (Pontypool and Wales), P. J. Wheeler (Leicester and England).

LOCKS: G. L. Brown*† (West of Scotland and Scotland), N. E. Horton (Moseley and England), A. J. Martin (Aberavon and Wales), G. A. D. Wheel (Swansea and Wales).

FLANKERS: T. J. Cobner (Pontypool and Wales), T. P. Evans (Swansea and Wales), A. Neary† (Broughton Park and England), D. L. Quinnell (Llanelli and Wales).

NUMBER EIGHTS: W. P. Duggan (Blackrock College and Ireland), R. M. Uttley† (Gosforth and England).

MANAGER: G. Burrell. **COACH:** S. J. Dawes.

*Toured NZ in 1971.
†Toured S. Africa in 1974.

Cardiff will be without Michael Murphy for their Welsh Cup semi-final round tie against Aberavon at Swansea on Saturday. Murphy, regarded as one of the club's most exciting prospects, broke down in training with a hamstring injury and his place will be taken by Peter Boland. Paul Evans continues to deputize for Gareth Davies at outside half.

Football

Injuries have destroyed all of Revie's plans

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

England's preparations for next Wednesday's World Cup qualifying match against Luxembourg at Wembley have been "destroyed" by injuries, Don Revie, the manager, said last night. He had hoped to announce his team in order to give them the opportunity to play together in practice but may now wait until Sunday.

Before this week's busy League programme, brought forward to alleviate the very problem of depriving England of players only a few days before their important match, Mr Revie had lost Thompson (Liverpool), Greenhoff (Manchester United), Francis (Queen's Park Rangers), Doyle (Manchester City) and McFarland (Derby County).

Then Pearson, Manchester United's centre-forward, dropped out after being injured on Wednesday and there are still doubts about Beattie, of Ipswich Town, who has a damaged ankle. "I'm surprised Beattie made it here at all", Mr Revie said at the hotel in Wembley where the party met last night. "He's been having injections and manipulations every day."

Mr Revie's decision to delay naming the team was unavoidable because Keegan, Tueart and Todd, all of whom he would probably have chosen, are also being treated for injuries. Keegan has ankle trouble that has not stopped him playing but has been persistent enough to keep him from proper training. Tueart has a knee injury and Todd did not report to the hotel yesterday because of a thigh strain. He is expected today.

The disruption was obviously worrying Mr Revie when he said: "It destroys all our plans—everything we had planned to do. We wanted four good training sessions with the team. That would have been terrific." Now the party will adjourn to a health farm at Hungerford without being told who will play next Wednesday.

This week Mr Revie went to Duisburg to see Luxembourg play a West German regional team of amateurs. Luxembourg lost 4—0 and Mr Revie said the Germans were as good as any side in the top half-dozen of the first division. Although Luxembourg did not include some of their professionals who are with French clubs, Mr Revie probably felt satisfied that their performance indicated that at Wembley they would be exceedingly defensive.

His answer may well be to play two wingers, Tueart and Hill, with both Channon and Royle in the centre of the attack. Keegan would then take a midfield position, moving ahead to add some variety. If Beattie is unfit, Mr Revie may also risk having only three recognized defenders.

Wrexham 6 Port Vale 2

Graham Whittle hit four goals to hoist Wrexham to third place in the third division with their biggest win of the season. Whittle struck in the 8th, 28th, 43rd and 86th minute to take his league tally to 20 goals for the season. He has scored 28 in all games.

Ridley (own goal) and Stuart Lee were Wrexham's other scorers. Vale's two goals came from Ken Beamish.

Yesterday's results

Third division

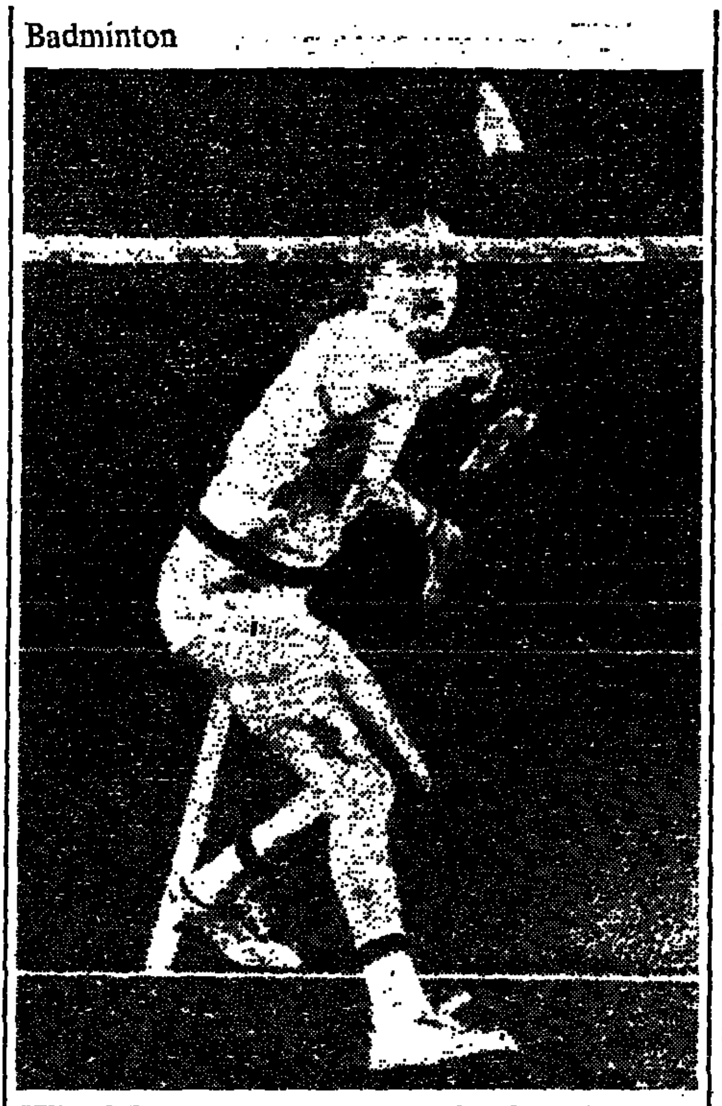
Wrexham (5) 6 Port Vale (1) 2
Whittle 4 Beamish 2
Ridley (og) 6,285
Lee

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Staines 1, Croydon 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Redditch 0, Atherstone 3.
RUGBY LEAGUE: Workington Town 6, Salford 12.

Today's fixtures

THIRD DIVISION: Tranmere Rovers v Rotherham United (7.30).
FOURTH DIVISION: Doncaster v Huddersfield (7.30); Southend United v Rochdale (7.30).
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford v Widnes (7.30).

Badminton



Gillian Gilks : nervous and taut in the fourth round.

Absence of pressure upsets Mrs Gilks

By Richard Streeton

A hazardous start by Gillian Gilks, the titleholder, threatened her with dramatic and unexpected defeat before she entered the semi-final round of the women's singles yesterday at the All-England badminton championships at Wembley. Mrs Gilks, who had dropped only six points in her first three matches, recovered to beat Lonny Bostofte, of Denmark, 3—11, 11—8, 11—0.

Margaret Lockwood, the second English girl in the fourth round, still troubled by injured shoulder muscles, also had to come from behind in both games before she won against Saoiri Kondo, of Japan, 11—8, 11—5.

Both the women's top seeds won more easily and today's semi-final round matches bring Lene Köppen (Denmark) up against Mrs Lockwood, and Mrs Gilks against Hiroe Yuki, the Japanese girl who beat her in the 1974 and 1975 finals. Miss Yuki ended the challenge of the 19-year-old Yorkshire girl, Paula Kilvington, 11—2, 11—3, proving too fast and powerful for her inexperienced opponent.

Mrs Gilks against the diminutive and agile Mrs Bostofte was unrecognizable at first as the same player who an hour earlier had almost cruelly thrashed Eniko Ueno, of Japan, 11—2, 11—1 in 12 minutes. In the fourth round, however, Mrs Gilks early on, misjudged the lines on her opponent's drop shots; overhit her own slashes; and was several times uncharacteristically sent the wrong way by cleverly angled placements at the net.

The champion looked nervous and taut. She admitted afterwards that, perhaps, the absence of any pressure hitherto had told against her. This was also her first match on a middle court in the arena and she clearly had trouble adjusting to the lesser amount of turbulence from Wembley's notorious draughts which affect the shuttle. In the second game Mrs Gilks drew away to 6—1, and overcame another shaky period before taking control and then romping through the decider.

Both the men's top seeds reached the semi-final round without serious trouble. Flemming Delfs, of Denmark, eliminated Derek Talbot, the last English representative, 15—9, 15—8. Talbot was 8—1 ahead in the first game, but a persistent cough, which he has had all week, later hampered him. Liem Swie King, of Indonesia, had his worst moments in the previous round, when he was fully extended by the 19-year-old Dane, Morten Frost-Hansen, before winning 10—15, 15—4, 18—13.

Men

THIRD ROUND: F. Delfs (Denmark) beat M. G. Tredgett, 15—5, 15—6; D. Talbot beat T. Nielsen (Denmark), 7—15, 15—10, 15—6; Sumirat (Indonesia) beat J. Helledie (Denmark), 15—10, 15—9; S. Johnsson (Sweden) beat E. Hsen (Denmark), 15—2, 15—1; M. Neergaard (Denmark) beat T. Kihlstrom (Sweden), 15—10, 15—6; Pri (Denmark) beat Y. Ino (Japan), 15—3, 18—7; P. Prakash (India) beat M. Tsuchida (Japan), 5—15, 15—4, 15—0; Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat M. Frost (Denmark), 10—15, 15—4, 15—13.

FOURTH ROUND: Delfs beat Talbot, 15—9, 15—8; Sumirat beat Johnsson, 8—15, 15—12, 15—8; Pri beat Neergaard, 15—6, 15—3; Liem Swie King beat Prakash, 18—14, 15—6.

Women

THIRD ROUND: Miss Koppen beat Miss Webster, 11—0, 11—2; Mrs Toganoo beat Mrs Youngberg, 11—5, 12—11; Miss Kilvington beat Miss Verawaty, 0—11, 11—9, 11—6; Miss Yuki beat Miss Kranz, 11—2, 11—2; Mrs M. Lockwood beat Miss W. Clarkson (Canada), 11—3, 11—8; Miss S. Kondon (Japan) beat Miss T. Sumirah (Indonesia), 11—5, 11—4; Mrs L. Bostofte (Denmark) beat Miss J. Van Beusekom (Netherlands), 8—11, 11—5, 11—4; Mrs G. M. Gilks beat Miss E. Ueno (Japan), 11—2, 11—1.

FOURTH ROUND: Miss L. Koppen (Denmark) beat Mrs E. Toganoo (Japan), 11—7, 12—9; Miss Yuki (Japan) beat Miss P. M. Kilvington, 11—2, 11—3; Mrs Lockwood beat Miss Kondon, 11—8, 11—5; Mrs Gilks beat Mrs Bostofte, 3—11, 11—8, 11—0.

Golf

Youngsters bundle out Dawson and Wood

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

There were humbling moments at Sunningdale yesterday on the way to the semi-finals in the mixed foursomes, and none more so than for the strong professional combination of Dawson and Wood, who were bundled out of the tournament by a pair of 18-year-olds, a left hander, Morley, and Stott. There was not much the losers could have done about it for their opponents reached the turn on the New in a net 31 in spite of taking three putts from 12ft on the fifth, but helped by Morley holing an eight iron for a two from the rough at the 396-yard third. Even so, one might have expected stronger resistance from such professionals than seven down at the turn, a position from which they could not hope to recover.

Defeat cannot have been made any easier for them because Stott looks even younger than he is yet plays with all the detachment of a professional. His talent was evident last year in playing for England at three levels; now he has put on weight and length. The boys were held to halves at the first eight holes in the afternoon by Bousfield and his four-handicap partner, Selwyn, but took advantage of their superior length at the ninth and won four more holes in a row.

There were other upsets in the fifth round, notably the removal of the holders and the defeat of Davies and King by Hunt and his assistant at Hartsbourne, Matthew. Hunt, younger brother of Bernard, makes few competitive appearances these days, but he rolled in an 18ft putt for a birdie four to save the match at the 18th and they got down with a single putt to win the 19th as King and Davies took three putts.

It was an unfortunate day for the losers, who had incurred the displeasure of Caygill ahead of them, when he judged that they had driven too close to his match at the ninth. In the last eight the winners played generally better against Miss Greenhalgh and Caygill, reaching the turn with twos at the short holes and fours at the remainder. The mixed pair took advantage of their three strokes coming in but their opponents' lead of four up at the turn was decisive.

Lyle, with his imposing long game and admirably supported by his older partner, Smith, reached the last four as he did with Poxon when it was snowed off two years ago, defeating Gallagher and Lennon, a magazine director, in the most entertaining match of the day. Huish, looking the perfect foursomes partner, ended, with Logan, the defiant progress of the club's last representative.

New Course

Fifth round:

A. Cargill and Miss J. Greenhalgh (5), beat G. Turner and G. Godwin (scr) 2 and 1; A. W. B. Lyle and M. A. Smith (scr) beat P. McGarry and M. Moseley (+1), 6 and 5; G. N. Hunt and D. Matthew (+1) beat M. King and J. C. Davies (+1), at 19th; D. Huish and G. Logan (+2), beat M. Hughesdon and C. A. Clark (+1), 6 and 5; P. Morley and H. Stott (scr) beat P. Dawson and N. Wood (+2) 8 and 7; B. Gallacher and T. R. Lennon (+1), beat D. N. Brungard and H. K. Clark (+2), 2 and 1; Dr H. U. S. McMichen and Mrs A. Sander (+6), beat J. Tarbuck and N. C. Coles (+1), by 1 hole; P. Selwyn and K. Bousfield (+1), beat A Mackey and M. White (+2), 2 and 1.

Sixth round:

Hunt and Matthew beat Cargill and Miss Greenhalgh, 2 and 1; Lyle and Smith beat Gallacher and Lennon, 1 hole; Huish and Logan beat McMichen and Mrs Sander, 2 and 1; Morley and Stott beat Selwyn and Bousfield, 5 and 4.

SINGAPORE: 67, Hsu Chi-San (Taiwan); R. Calvin (US). British scores: 73, P. Beames; 74, M. Bembridge; 78, P. Downes.

NDOLA, Zambia: Zambia Open: 67, B. Barnes; 69, G. Dullen; 70, I. Higgins, T. Horton; 71, M. James, I. Livingstone; 72, M. Gregson, W. Longmuir, D. McClelland, C. O'Connor, snr, C. O'Connor, Jnr, R. Wynn.

Board to reduce number of penalty kicks

The International Rugby Board, eting in London this week, are ely to introduce the differenl penalty. The question has n under consideration since a eting in Sydney three years ago l the Board have waited until ; year to receive statistics from seven member countries.

he object is to reduce the ks at goal now available for vast number of technical ences in the game. The probe outcome of the Board's iberations, to be announced ay, is a two-year experiment, iting kicks at goal to foul play. he Board will also have been ed to consider the appointment referees to international tches. The request has come a letter from the Scottish gby Union after France's rejecn of Norman Sanson, a Scotreferee. After his rejection France, the Scottish RFU ed a statement backing his rts to uphold International rd directions on rough play.

Ampleforth strongly placed for a double

By Peter Marson

The second and third rounds in the open competition of the national schoolboys seven a side tournament were completed yesterday. Happily, the weather held for the third day running and though the Parks ground and those of the Bank of England along the road were heavily cut about, we witnessed some excellent rugby, sufficient in quality and quantity to whet the appetite for the final four rounds today.

Of the successful battalions last season, only the flag of Reigate, the holders, flies at the masthead. St Benedict's, the runners up, fell to a Surrey school, John Fisher, in the third round. Cowley, who began impressively, bowed out at the same stage, to Chislehurst and Sidcup who won 18—12.

Cwmtawe fell at their first hurdle to St Edmund's, Ware. Yet St Edmund's did not have long to enjoy their triumph for their reward was a meeting with Ampleforth, whose illustrious seven had carried off the Festival Trophy on Wednesday.

The double, so to speak, would be a rare and splendid achievement. Ampleforth's abundant strength and their accomplishments make them strongly placed to be the first school to reach the summit a second time. But, here on, each step to the top will be hazardous. Hampton provide the first test, and Ampleforth, should they survive, are then likely to face Whitehaven, in the second semi-final round match.

That would be something to savour, for Whitehaven looked good yesterday, and with trophies from tournaments at Manchester, Morpeth and Keswick already resting on the shelf, they are bursting with confidence. Hereford Cathedral School, Coleraine, Normanton, King's Macclesfield, Chislehurst and Sidcup, Belmont, and Royal Belfast have made their mark and can be counted upon to embellish the last act before the victor is crowned and the curtain falls.

Yesterday's results in schools sevens

SECOND ROUND: Latymer Upper 12, Haverfordwest 16; Merchant Taylors', Crosby 6, Royal Belfast 10; Ellesmere 0, Warwick 10; St Dunstan's 14, King Edward VI South 0; Belmont Abbey 25, Roundhay 0; Methodist College, Belfast 14, Blackpool 4; Perse 0, St Edwards 6; Hampton 22, Llandovery 6; St Michael's, Leeds 4, Ampleforth 30; St Edmund's 15, Cwmtawe 6; St Bede's 12, King William's 4; Cheshunt 0, Reigate 14; Hymers College 4, St Benedict's 15; St Anselm's 0, John Fisher 10; Windsor 4, Woolverstone Hall 16; Regent House 4, Stowe 6; Cowley 16, Oakham 6; Solihull 6, Chislehurst and Sidcup 18; Gravesend 7, King's, Macclesfield 16; Mount St Mary's 4, Emanuel 6; Normanton 8, Doncaster 0; Queen Elizabeth 4, Gowerton 22; West Park 18, Truro 12; Whitehaven 23, Plymouth 8; Coleraine 18, St Nicholas 8; Aylesbury 4, Stonyhurst 10; Royal Grammar School, Guildford 12, Sevenoaks 0; Sir William Borlase 10, Dwr-y-Felin 14; Gunnersbury 6, Magnus 4; Rutlish 13, Westcliff 6; Pickering HS 0, Hereford CS 26; St Joseph's, Ipswich 4, Manchester 10.

THIRD ROUND: Haverfordwest 4, Royal Belfast 16; Warwick 9, St Dunstan's 0; Belmont Abbey 18, Methodist College, Belfast 4; St Benedict's 12, John Fisher 16; Woolverstone Hall 8, Stowe 6; St Edward's, Liverpool 6, Hampton 18; Ampleforth 10, St Edmund's 6; St Bede's 0, Reigate 22; Cowley 12, Chislehurst and Sidcup 18; King's, Macclesfield 23, Emanuel 0; Normanton 3, Gowerton 0; Stonyhurst 28, Royal Grammar School, Guildford 0; Dwr-y-Felin 4, Gunnersbury 10; West Park 10, Whitehaven 22; Coleraine 8, Rutlish 6; Hereford CS 16, Manchester 14.

Swimming

Parker dampens Sparkes's hopes again

David Parker claimed his second title in the national short course championships, sponsored by Coca-Cola at Cambridge last night, when he won the men's 440 yards free-style, an event held by Brian Brinkley since the start of the championships in 1971. With the retirement of Brinkley, the title was vacant and, as in the longer 1,650 yards free-style on the previous night, Parker beat Paul Sparkes by three-tenths of a second.

Andrew Astbury, aged 16, led at the half way mark, but then Parker and Sparkes took command. Parker held off a strong challenge over the final length to win in 4min 5.75sec. Sharon Davies, a 14-year-old, also took her second title in winning the 880 yards free-style.

But she was disappointed that her time of 9min 8.08sec did not come closer to breaking the short course record, held by Moira Houston. Cheryl Brazendale, only 13, was again second in 9min 10.49sec, with Miss Houston back in fourth place.

MEN: 110 yards butterfly: 1, M. Thorne (Coventry), 53.18sec; 2, J. Mills (Sutton and Cheam), 59.75sec; 3, M. Thomas (Leicester), 1min 00.6sec. 220 yards backstroke: 1, M. Sloper (Reading), 2min 11.49sec; 2, S. Harrison (Southampton), 2:11.65; 3, P. Robinson (Leeds), 2:13.80. 440 yards free-style: 1, D. Parker (Coventry), 4min 5.75sec; 2, P. Sparkes (Merton Swordfish), 4:6.05; 3, A. McClatchey (Warrender), 4:7.39.

WOMEN: 110 yards butterfly: 1, S. Jenner, 1min 5.05sec; 2, L. Taylor (Coventry), 1:6.08; 3, K. Archer (Chelsea-Kensington), 1:6.54. 880 yards free-style: 1, S. Davies (Plymouth), 9min 8.48sec; 2, C. Brazendale (Norbreck Castle), 9:10.49; 3, L. Heggie (Warrington), 9:12.77. 4 x 1 length individual medley: 1, M. Kelly (Cumberland), 1min 53.72sec; 2, S. Davies (Plymouth), 1:54.10; 3, S. Broadbent (Dewsbury), 1:54.97.

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arls Court event loses aver but gains Rosewall

Rex Bellamy
nis Correspondent

n Rosewall has agreed to fly . Los Angeles to London at weekend to replace Rod Laver e World Championship Tennis iament that is to be played irls Court from Tuesday until 3. Laver's back and racket have been ailing for three s. He was looking forward to g part in Earls Court's first s promotion, but decided it in everyone's best interests he should not take the risk. sewall, who beat Laver in rst two WCT finals at Dallas, ain among the players cur- leading the qualifying table, which eight men will advance npete in Dallas from May 10 . After last week's WCT ment in St Louis, the top were Connors, Drysdale, on, Fibak, Gerulaitis, e, Rosewall and Okker. Closest challengers are Dibbs, and Scanlon.

Earls Court tournament will e ninth of 12 qualifying and the last to be played indoors. The remaining three will all be contested on clay. On the WCT circuit, the depth of class is such that even first round matches would, in many cases, grace the later rounds of the most famous championships. The draw for Earls Court, made yesterday, illustrates the point.

Play will be restricted to the evenings, except on the Sunday, when the final will begin at 3.0. The seedings suggest that the final will be Nastase v Stockton and Case and Roche v Fibak and Okker.

Although these double pairing were unfamiliar until this year, the players concerned all have distinguished records with other partners (Fibak won last year's WCT title with Meiler). The eight leading doubles pairs qualify for the WCT play-off series at Kansas City from May 4 to 8.

DRAW: Singles: Nastase v Okker; Rosewall v Amritraj; Roche v Case; Panatta v Dibbs; Gerulaitis v Cox; Fibak v Kodes; Alexander v Solomon; Moore v Stockton. Doubles: Case and Roche v Moore and Solomon; Amritraj and Stockton v Nastase and Panatta; Alexander and Rosewall v Cox and Dibbs; Gerulaitis and Kodes v Fibak and Okker.

est European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
natt	45	380	Good	Crust	Poor	Fair	7
msstock top runs closed							
z	115	175	Fair	Varied	Good	Fog	0
sh on lower slopes							
lwald	3	85	Fair	Varied	Closed	Fair	13
ne spring snow							
gne	175	280	Good	Heavy	Fair	Fog	5
per pistes still good							
u	0	40	Fair	Varied	Worn	Cloud	3
wer lifts closed							
on	5	240	Poor	Heavy	Closed	Fine	14
o days of extreme föhn							
itz	90	190	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	2
zen granular snow							
	0	90	Fair	Fair	Closed	Föhn	12
h wind, all lifts closed							
	15	150	Good	Heavy	Fair	Fair	12
sh on lower slopes							
	60	160	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	5
y strong winds							

above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of ritain. L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The g reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
	40	150	Good	—	—
chia	30	180	Good	—	—
	60	180	Good	—	—
	70	320	Good	—	—
	150	300	Good	—	—
	150	200	Good	—	—
	50	170	Good	—	—
	80	230	Good	—	—
ia	100	430	Good	—	—
	180	320	Good	—	—
m C	150	360	Good	—	—
dno	80	250	Good	—	—
	100	200	Good	—	—
	150	170	Good	—	—

SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	—	80	Sprng	Cloud	5
Arosa	120	140	Sprng	Fair	4
Braunwald	15	90	Sprng	Fair	5
Chateau d'Oex	—	70	Sprng	Cloud	8
Crans	40	160	Sprng	Cloud	—
Davos	50	200	Sprng	Cloud	-2
Disentis	—	200	Sprng	Cloud	10
Flims	—	100	Sprng	Fair	13
Kandersteg	—	80	Sprng	Cloud	7
Lenk	6	80	Sprng	Cloud	9
Lenzerheide	30	90	Sprng	Sun	4
Morgins	30	80	Sprng	Cloud	5
Pontresina	60	120	Hard	Fair	0
Saanenmöser	40	100	Sprng	Cloud	2
Saas-Fee	100	300	Good	Snow	-1
Villars	0	20	Poor	Cloud	6

Cricket

Athey the most successful in Australia

Sydney, March 24.—England and Australia will extend the exchange of promising young players after the sponsored visit to Australia of four young English cricketers during the 1976-77 season, according to Fred Bennett, a delegate of the Australian Cricket Board. Mr Bennett said that negotiations were proceeding for four young Australians to play in England during the summer.

The sponsored players, who played in Sydney and Melbourne club competitions this season, were Bill Athey and Graham Stephenson, of Yorkshire, Ian Botham, of Somerset, and Michael Gatting, of Middlesex. Athey was the most successful, scoring 267 runs in seven innings for Manly-Warringha, in Sydney, at an average of 44.50.

Gatting, who turned out for Balmain, also in Sydney, struggled to find batting form. He had been named as the first batting reserve for the MCC tour of India, but here he had more success as a bowler. Botham started disastrously with a duck in his first innings for Melbourne University, but improved as he adjusted to the Melbourne wickets. His top score was 41. Stephenson struggled throughout his three-month stay and had little success on poorly prepared Melbourne wickets.—Reuter.

Prize money on offer for Test series

There will be prize money for the first time from the Test and County Cricket Board for home Test matches this summer, with £20,000 at stake for the five-match series between England and Australia.

For each match, starting with the Jubilee Test at Lord's on June 16, £4,000 will be on offer. The winners will receive £2,500

A working party is to be set up within the next month to discuss the future of the Oval, concerning Test matches and recreational facilities for the local community. The party will be chaired by Lambeth Council

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Alan Jones will captain Glamorgan this season, the county announced yesterday. Jones took over last year when Majid Khan resigned.

Athletics

Pascoe is coming back to go out the right way

By Cliff Temple
Athletics Correspondent

The frustration and disappointment which Alan Pascoe, the European and Commonwealth 400 metres hurdles champion, experienced last summer has persuaded him to compete internationally for at least one more season, possibly two. This decision will be particularly well received among the regular athletics supporters at Crystal Palace, where Pascoe is one of perhaps half a dozen names whose presence will always ensure a large crowd.

His first 400 metres race of 1977 will be in that arena on May 18, when he faces the former world record holder and 1972 Olympic champion, John Akii-Bua, of Uganda, in the "Silver Jubilee Night of Athletics", sponsored by Philips. It was on the same track last June, while warming up for a training period, that Pascoe suddenly felt a sharp pain in his achilles tendon. That pain was to spell the end of his hopes of completing a clean sweep of important titles with an Olympic gold medal in July. Instead it began a race against time even to get to the Montreal Games, and when he did he was plagued by self doubt. Although he surprised many people by even reaching the final, in view of his prolonged injury problems, his eighth place run, though gutsy, was not an accurate reflection of his world standing.

"If I had won in Montreal, or even come second in a good race, I would have retired then. You can't say whether or not I would have beaten the eventual winner, Edwin Moses, of the USA, if I had not been injured, but my eternal regret is that I was not able to go to the starting line 100 per cent fit.

"In my training earlier in the year I had done some things of which I did not think I was physically capable. But then came that tendon injury. I've never been so bitterly upset as I was that night."

Pascoe, who will be 30 in October, is a director of a London promotions company dealing with sports personalities and events, and is thus undertaking a work load which is not exactly conducive to promoting his own competitive career. But the motivation to continue putting his body on the rack in probably the most explosively exhausting event comes, he says, from a desire to be remembered "as a winner going away from the field".

Skiing

Flawless run by an improving champion

From John Hennessy
Solynieve, March 24

Lise-Marie Morerod, of Switzerland, already winner of this year's World Cup, gained another stunning victory here in the Sierra Nevada in the final giant slalom of the season. With a flawless run under a blazing Spanish sun, she put two seconds between her and any serious rivals.

The piste became faster and late in the proceedings Ingrid Eberle, of Austria, and Ursula Konzett, of Liechtenstein, arrived to throw a couple of spanners in the works and claim second and third places, respectively. Miss Morerod's time for the 1,650 metres course (vertical drop 400 metres) at Borreguiles (8,700ft) was 1min 33.38sec, Miss Eberle's 1min 34.55sec and Miss Konzett's 1min 34.66sec. Of the better-known challengers, Annemarie Moser, of Austria, was fourth in 1min 35.32sec, two seconds behind Miss Morerod, give or take a blink or two of the eye.

For some time now Miss Morerod has been regarded as a brilliant technician, without however the will to conquer her nerves on the big occasions. She has put all that behind her now and, once her consuming desire to shine also in the downhill has been satisfied, she could become one of the great ski champions. She is just 20.

She came here, she said afterwards, not as a holiday skier, having already done enough for one season, but as a champion who was determined to prove herself. She succeeded brilliantly. An intermediate time of 50.02sec heralded her victory and, although Miss Eberle was able marginally to outstrip the Swiss on the second part of the course, there was never a hope of her, or anyone else for that matter, overhauling Miss Morerod.

The surprise packet was Miss Konzett, starting last but one ahead of the token Spanish entry, Montserrat Puig. Miss Konzett had not previously gained a place in the first 10 of a World Cup race. Now her third place, apart from giving an unexpected bonus to the tiny but impressive Liechtenstein team, evoked a sympathetic response from the surprisingly large number of British spectators. National anthems were played for all three medal winners and her country have had the good taste to choose the music of "God Save The Queen" for theirs. Today's queen was Miss Morerod, and her reign may also be long.

GIANT SLALOM: 1, L.-M. Morerod (Switzerland), 1min 33.38sec; 2, I. Eberle (Austria), 1:34.55; 3, U. Konzett (Liechtenstein), 1:34.66; 4, A. Moser (Austria), 1:35.32; 5, B. Dorsey (US), 1:35.73; 6, F. Serrat (France), 1:35.78; 7, E. Matus (France), 1:35.83; 8, K. Kreiner (Canada), 1:35.92; 9, P. Pelen (France), 1:35.95; 10, L. Sauikor (Austria), 1:36.10.

WORLD CUP: 1, Morerod, 319 pts; 2, Moser, 246 pts; 3, M. Kaserer (Austria), 196 pts; 4, B. Habersatter (Austria), 186 pts; 5, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 150 pts; 6, M. T. Nadig (Switzerland), 135 pts; 7, Pelen, 132 pts; 8, C. Giordani (Italy), 121 pts; 9, Serrat, 85 pts; 10, B. Zur-[illegible]

Table tennis

Breach between Simpson and Neale is healed

Peter Simpson, England's team captain, watched Denis Neale go through a hectic training session in Birmingham last night and said that any differences between them had been forgotten. Neale, the national No 2, from Great Harwood, was reinstated in England's team for the world table tennis championship, beginning on Saturday, after an appeal to the English Table Tennis Association.

Simpson, who instigated Neale's dismissal from the team earlier this month after alleged disruptive activities at a training camp, said: "The breach has been healed. Denis wants England to do well and so do I, so there would be no point for the arguing to go on. I am quite certain all the trouble will now be forgotten."

Show jumping

British short list of eight for European open

By Pamela Macgregor Morris

A formidable blend of professionals and amateurs was announced yesterday as Britain's short list for the European open show jumping championships in Vienna from June 23 to 26. David Broome, who has already won the title three times—at Aachen in 1961, in Rotterdam in 1967 and at Hickstead in 1969—is in the professional contingent with Harvey Smith, Malcolm Pyrah and Caroline Bradley.

Paddy McMahon is sure of his place as the defending champion, after his victory in the last open championships in 1973 at Hickstead. The amateur candidates, led by Debbie Johnsey, are Graham Fletcher, Tony Newbery and John Whitaker.

All the riders have been asked to produce their horses in peak condition in early June and to save them in the meantime. The final team of four will be selected on form. This year there will be a team championship for the first time.

The British Horse Society yesterday gave medals of honour to Ronnie Massarella, a show jumping manager, to Captain Ronnie Wallace, retiring after 25 years as Master of the Heythrop Hounds, to Colonel Bill Lithgow, the manager of the three-day event team since 1965, and to the Honorable Verona Kitson, the chairman of Riding for the Disabled for the past 10 years.

For the record

Tennis

CAIRO: Egyptian international tournament: First round: F. Jauffret (France) beat W. Zirngibl (W Germany), 6—3, 6—4; P. Kronk (Australia) beat R. Taylor (GB), 7—6, 6—2; R. Lewis (GB) beat H. Kary (Austria), 4—6, 6—3, 6—3; B. Fairlie (NZ) beat V. Morisov (USSR), 6—2, 6—2; N. Spear (Yugoslavia) beat J. Bartlett (Australia), 6—1, 6—3. Quarter final round: P. Dupre (US) beat P. Kronk (Australia), 4—6, 7—5, 6—1; F. Jauffret (France) beat N. Spear (Yugoslavia), 7—5, 6—1; F. Gebert (W Germany) beat B. Fairlie (New Zealand), 4—2, 3—6, 6—4; C. Letcher (Australia) beat R. Lewis (Britain), 6—2, 3—6, 6—4.

ROTTERDAM: First round: C. Barazzutti (Italy) beat R. Moore (SA), 6—4, 3—6, 6—1; V. Amritraj (India) beat M. Orantes (Spain), 1—6, 7—6, 6—3; R. Stockton (US) beat H. Solomon (US), 6—3, 6—4.

CARLSBAD, California: Second round: B. Gottfried beat B. Bertram (SA), 6—4, 6—2; S. Smith beat S. Menon (India), 1—6, 7—5, 6—2; R. Lutz beat R. Reid, 6—3, 6—3; M. Riessen beat J. Norbach, 6—1, 6—1; A. Stone (Australia) beat F. McMillan (SA), 6—3, 3—6, 6—3; H. Pfister beat B. Teacher, 6—5, 6—5; B. Mitton beat R. Bohrnstedt, 6—2, 6—4; R. Edmondson (Australia), 6—0, 6—2; V. 6—4, 7—6; E. van Dillen beat G. Masters (Australia), 6—4, 3—7, 7—6; C. Kirmayr (Brazil) beat R. Case (Australia), 7—5, 6—3; T. Waltke beat M. Edmondson (Australia), 6—0, 6—2; V. Amaya (Argentina) beat O. Bengtson (Sweden), 6—2, 7—5; T. Gullikson wo. R. Tanner scr; B. Borg (Sweden) beat A. Pattison [illegible]

Bowls

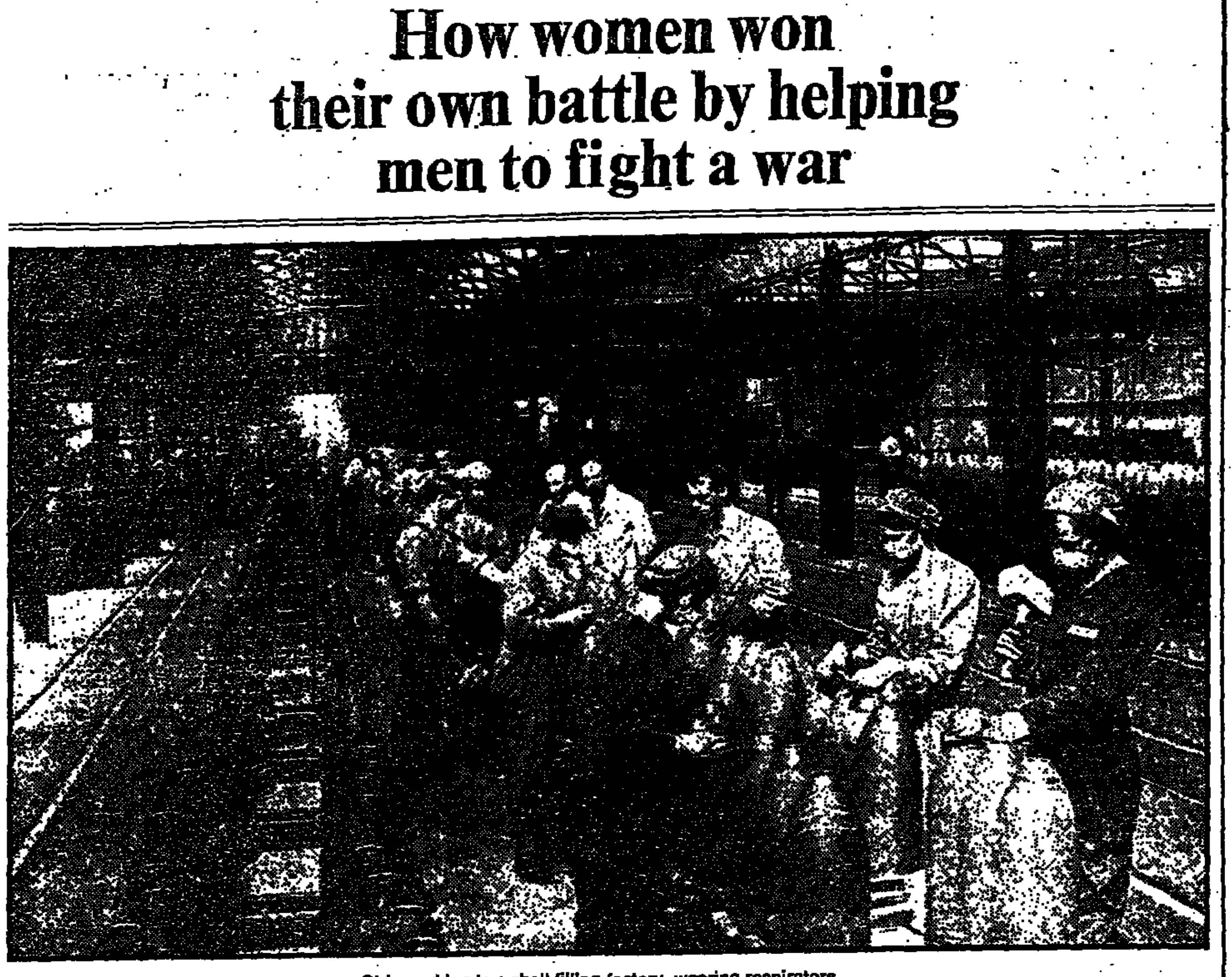
ARBROATH: British Isles women's indoor championship: England 105, Wales 113. Results (English skips first): Mrs O. Freeman 27, Mrs E. Morgan 14; Mrs I. Molyneux 16, Mrs K. Lake 15; Mrs C. Glover-Phillips 15, Mrs M. Pomeroy 23; Mrs J. Sparks 13, Mrs M. Bellamy 21; Mrs E. Harris 20, Mrs L. Nicholas 20; Mrs E. Smith 16, Mrs J. Pipe 20. Scotland 117, England 119. Results (Scottish skips first): Mrs M. Jamieson 16, Mrs E. Smith 23; Mrs M. Black 21, Mrs Glover-Phillips 17; Mrs A. Leslie 21, Mrs J. Parkes 20; Mrs J. Frame 24, Mrs I. Molyneux 15; Mrs B. Chisholm 18, Mrs N. Cress 19; Mrs C. McFarland 17, Mrs E. Harris 25. Scotland 113, Ireland 112.

Squash rackets

WEMBLEY: British Open championship qualifying competition: R. Skey (Rhodesia) beat D. Morgan (Canada), 10—8, 9—0, 9—5; N. Preston beat J. Clark, 9—0, 9—5, 9—1; D. Pennington beat A. Rashid (Egypt), 9—1, 9—4, 9—2; W. Oakley (S Africa) beat P. East, 9—7, 9—5, 9—3; D. Mason beat A. Dros, 9—3, 9—1, 9—7; P. White beat E. Berry (US), 9—7, 4—9, 9—5; I. Din (Pakistan) beat T. Mabbitt, 9—10, 9—1, 9—5, 9—7; P. Tibbs beat F. Yaqubian (Iran), 9—2, 9—3, 9—2; C. Roo beat R. Koleche, 9—0, 9—0, 9—1.

Rugby Union

How women won their own battle by helping men to fight a war



Girls working in a shell-filling factory, wearing respirators

Woman vet *removing a shoe from* a horse

Women coke workers *lifting a bag onto a woman* carrier's back

London bus conductress: women were not taken on until the early summer of 1916

The Imperial War Museum's ambitious exhibition "Women at War: 1914-18", which opens to the public today, commemorates what was arguably the most significant positive result of the European civil war: the *recognition*, however reluctant and retractable, that women could no longer be classified as second-class citizens on the ground that they did nothing to defend the community in time of peril.

The campaign for the parliamentary vote had given suffragists, militant and non-militant, a valuable training in techniques of administration and organization. By August, 1914 they were ready and for the most part eager to take full advantage of the Great Emergency. First came the obligatory denunciation of a "man-made" catastrophe for which women, "the natural guardians of the race", were blameless. "This great war is God's vengeance upon the people who held women in subjection and by doing that have destroyed the perfect human balance", wrote Christabel Pankhurst in *The Suffragette*. But within a few days Mrs Pankhurst and Mrs Fawcett, the non-militant leader, were summoning their followers to national service.

For a while it seemed that women's main role would be to act as recruiting agents and, in the words of Ivor Novello's song, to keep the home fires burning. Baroness Orczy founded the Women of England's Active Service League. ("Together we have laughed and cried over that dauntless Englishman, the Scarlet Pimpernel, ... Now our sole object will be that of influencing our men to offer themselves to the nearest recruiting office.") Nurses back from the "rape" of Belgium toured the country shaming slackers with gruesome atrocity stories.

But, ignoring their rejection by army authorities, determined women soon contrived their own war efforts. Two ex-suffragettes, Doctors Flora Murray and Louisa Garrett Anderson, set up a hospital in the Hôtel Claridge in Paris. Mairi Chisholm, an 18-year-old Scots girl, began a three-year stint in a dug-out casualty clearance centre in Flanders and became famous as one of the "Heroines of Pervyse".

Mrs St Clair Stobart, a champion golfer and rogue feminist, who had led her Women's Convoy Corps into action during the Balkan War of 1912-13, took a field hospital to Serbia in 1915 and—with her devoted husband acting as a kind of batman—played a spectacular part in the long, gruelling winter retreat to Scutari. Sergeant Flora Sandes, a clergyman's tomboy daughter, fought with the Serbian army. Dr Elsie Inglis, a founder of the Scottish Women's Suffrage Federation and surely the great copybook heroine of the period, was the *moving spirit behind the* Scottish Women's Hospital Units which served in France, Serbia and Romania. "The ordinary male disbelief in our capacity cannot be argued away", she insisted, "it can only be worked away". When in autumn 1917 her committee in London suggested that it was time to pull out, Dr Inglis, herself dying of cancer, cabled indignantly: "*We must stand by.* If you want us home, get the Serbs out."

Continuing their bitter feud with Asquith, Emmeline and Christabel Pankhurst did everything in their power to oust him and install their man of destiny, Lloyd George, as Prime Minister. Both toured the United States as semi-official propagandists for the Allied cause, and in summer 1917 Mrs Pankhurst visited Petrograd and Moscow to urge Kerensky to keep the Russian army fighting against the Germans. Christabel demanded total war—a joint allied high command, the internment of all enemy aliens, a clear-out of "pro-Germans" from the Foreign Office, food rationing, universal conscription, and no nonsense about a negotiated peace.

With Lloyd George's backing, the Pankhursts staged two "Women's Right to Serve" demonstrations in an effort to overcome trade union resistance to the mass employment of female labour, and launched an "industrial campaign" to warn the workers of the dangers of Bolshevism.

Military conscription broke the barriers of male prejudice, based on fear of cheap competition. Hundreds of thousands of women worked in factories and on the land, while others appeared in uniform as WAACs, Wrens, and WAAFs, or performed efficiently, to a chorus of insultingly astonished journalistic praise, as railway porters, van drivers, and bus conductors.

But though Asquith conceded that women had "worked out their own salvation" and in so doing had earned the vote, some of them refused to be carried away by the mood of the moment. Sylvia Pankhurst and Charlotte Despard led a Women's Peace Crusade and denounced the profiteers of a "capitalist" war. Catherine Marshall, formerly one of Mrs Fawcett's chief lieutenants, organized and ran the No Conscription Fellowship, and Mrs Pethick-Lawrence was a pillar of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Enid Bagnold was one of many auxiliary nurses who learnt to despise *the glory rhetoric of journalists and politicians.* "When one shoots at a wooden figure", she wrote in her diary, "it makes a hole. When one shoots at a man it makes a hole, and the doctor must make seven others." Lesley Smith, another VAD, described the high-speed butchery of a field hospital in France: "The leg I was holding came off with a jerk . . . . I stuffed it into the dressing pail with the other arms and legs."

More than 8,000,000 women got the vote in February 1918, and—an unexpected concession—women were allowed to stand for Parliament in the Khaki Election of November. Sixteen, including Christabel Pankhurst, Mrs Despard and Mrs Pethick-Lawrence, went before the electors. None was *successful. But not all the veterans* of the suffrage campaign were elated by the apparent breakthrough.

Sylvia Pankhurst argued that women had been called in to give a new lease on life to an outmoded parliamentary system. In a brilliant minority report to the War Cabinet Committee on Women in Industry, Beatrice Webb demanded that minimum conditions of employment and welfare should apply to both sexes. But it *soon became clear that women were expected* to make way for returning heroes, and a new generation of feminists took up the struggle for equality.

By the early 1920s Dora Russell was voicing her anger that the vote should have been given and "a few damehoods and MBEs dropped around" as a reward to women for "helping the destruction of *our offspring*". Why should sexual satisfaction be confined to marriage? Why *should sex without children be regarded* as a sin? There was, she wrote, "an urgent need for a trade union of lovers to conquer the world and cry aloud that feminism is nowhere so much needed as in the home".

David Mitchell

The author's biography, *Queen Christabel*, will be published by Macdonald & Jane's in the autumn.

● *The photographs above are taken from* Women at War, 1914-1918, *by Arthur Marwick, published today by Croom Helm at £6.95 (Fontana, £2.50).*

A strange loophole in the price rise rules

Fierce debate about the rights and wrongs of higher charges for gas, electricity and postage may obscure the fact that chapati flour will cost more next week. The rise of 15p on a 70lb bag is small and affects a minority of British families, but it is interesting nevertheless.

Most planned increases in *grocery prices* are examined by the Price Commission and then *passed on to shoppers*. That is the fate of baked beans, frozen *peas, fish fingers, crisps and* other staple foods of our time, but not of *chapati flour*. The increase on that has been imposed by *Mr Roy Hattersley*, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

On Wednesday he quietly laid the Household Flour Prices (Amendment) Number Two Order 1977 before Parliament, *saying* that the price ceiling on white chapati flour had to be raised because of increased costs. He is in charge of white flour because it is subsidized, and the need for him to attend to the chapati question on the day when the Government faced one of the most important Commons votes of its life illustrates the variegated nature of the present price control.

Industrialists say that it sits on them like an incubus. They complain that it is framed so pedantically that it is hard for them to demonstrate that an *increase is justified, let alone* sneak through one that is not.

Yet while at one extreme the system requires a Cabinet minister to examine chapatis, it allows loopholes at the other. He wants to eliminate them, but is understandably reticent on the subject since his Government has allowed them to persist for more than three years. When prices of foods rise often, as those of tea and coffee are doing now, there is a temptation for small traders to buy extra stocks at the old price and make extra profit by selling at the new.

Supermarkets are less likely to try the trick because of the size and speed of their operations. Mr *Denis Ellam, secretary* of the National Federation of Wholesale Grocers, said that his members would not do it because the cost of buying extra stocks would outweigh the extra profit *gained from* selling at the new price. But he added: "I won't say that nobody ever tries this."

The Price Commission, whose master is Mr Hattersley, is charged with ensuring that nobody profiteers. But while Parliament has given Sir Arthur Cockfield and his colleagues at the Commission wide powers over supermarkets, it has sent them naked into the corner shops of Britain.

The rule is that distributors with annual turnover of more than £15m must report their profits to the Price Commission, where there are more than 500 civil servants to examine them. Those with turnover of more than £500,000 must keep *records, which the Commission* may ask to examine.

Shopkeepers and wholesalers whose trade is below that figure are *expected to abide by* the rules of the Price Code. But it *is left to shoppers to catch* them out, since the Commission *can inspect a business of any* size if a complaint is made *about it*.

Thus the Secretary of State keeps an eye on chapatis while his lowliest minions cannot act *to prevent profiteering in small* food shops—unless consumers *alert them first. There is no* reason to believe that more than a tiny minority of grocers, if any, are making an unfair *profit out of the rapid increases* in tea and coffee prices. But it would benefit them as well as their customers if the Government's "watchdog" could pronounce on their profits in an authoritative way as it has done for butchers and fishmongers.

Hugh Clayton

Law Report March 24 1977

Court of Appeal

Discharge of juror going camping upheld

Regina v Hambery

Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice MacKenna, and Mr Justice Gibson

The discharge during the course of a trial of a juror whose holiday arrangements would be interfered with by having to stay on the jury does not any longer hinder the administration of justice. Trial by jury today depends upon the willing cooperation of the public.

The Court of Appeal held that the discharge of a juror during the trial of Cyril Hambery at Croydon Crown Court (*Judge Campbell-Salmon*) was proper, and dismissed his appeal against conviction on one count of theft and three of false accounting.

Mr Gerald Rabie for the appellant; Mr Nicholas Philpot for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that the appeal called for consideration of two questions: (1) Could a judge discharge a juror in the course of a trial and before the jury retired to consider its verdict merely because the juror had arranged to go on holiday before the trial was likely to end? (2) If the judge in the present case had power to discharge a juror for that reason, and had done so, could his decision be challenged?

The trial had started on Monday, July 16, 1976, and was expected *to last not* more than three or four days. The jurors who had been empanelled had been summoned for jury service for the week ending on Friday, July 30. The trial had taken longer than had been expected. On Friday afternoon the judge, purporting to act under section 16(1) of the Juries Act, 1974, discharged a woman juror who was going on holiday to Somerset next day.

Section 16(1) did not expressly confer upon the judge a power to discharge a juror. It provided that if a juror was discharged, the jury should be considered as remaining *for all the purposes* of the trial. It set out what the consequences of *discharging a juror* should be. The reason why it was *in that form was to be found in* the past.

From Sir Edward Coke's time until 1866 there was doubt whether a jury "sworn and charged in a case of life or member" could "be discharged by the court or any other, but they ought to give their verdict".

Whatever might have been the rule in Coke's time (and it was doubtful whether his statement of the law was correct) by the second half of the eighteenth century it had been accepted that a jury could be discharged "in cases of evident necessity": see *Blackstone's Commentaries* (1857 ed, Vol 4, p 425). A case of evident necessity would have occurred if a juror became so ill as to be unable to continue (*Gray v R* (11 C & F 427)) and probably if one or more *jurors misbehaved*.

When a "case of evident necessity" *involving one or more* jurors did occur the whole jury *had to be discharged. Whatever* doubts about the discharge of *juries had existed* before 1866, they had been dissipated in that year by the decision of the Exchequer Chamber in *R v Winsor* ((1866) LR 1 QB, 390). That was an appeal on writ of error. The record of the trial stated that the assize judges had adjudged that it was necessary to discharge the jury on the ground of necessity. It had been accepted on behalf of the Crown that *R v Winsor* was decided on the technicalities of the writ of error and was no help on the question whether, under the Criminal Appeal Act, 1968, their Lordships had jurisdiction to review the exercise of judicial discretion during a criminal trial.

Despite that concession, their Lordships had thought it right to consider two cases decided under the Criminal Appeal Act, 1907, *R. v Lewis* ((1909) 2 Cr App R 180) and *R v Beadell* ((1933) 24 Cr App R 39). In both the Court of Criminal Appeal had adjudged that it had no power to interfere with the discretion of a trial judge to discharge a jury. *Neither* case had been concerned with the problem of discharging a juror. In 1909 if a judge had discharged *a juror he had had to discharge* all the others too as there had *been no jurisdiction to try a* criminal case otherwise than with a jury of 12.

Nowadays, in both criminal and civil cases, the courts had been more willing to review the exercise of judicial discretion than they had been before 1937, when the House of Lords decided *Evans v Bartlam* ([1937] AC 473).

What was right for an appellate civil court to do to prevent injustice must surely be right for an *appellate criminal court* to do. In criminal cases the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal to review the exercise of a judge's discretion to discharge a jury was limited by the fact that it could only hear an appeal against conviction on indictment: section 1 of the Criminal Appeal Act, 1968. Proceedings before a jury which had been discharged did not result in a *conviction on indictment. Pleas* of autrefois acquit and autrefois *convict could not* be based on such abortive proceedings: *R v Winsor*. Proceedings in which not more than three jurors had been discharged could, however, result in a conviction: section 16(1) of the Juries Act. Their Lordships could see no reason why the exercise of judicial discretion to discharge one or more jurors should not be reviewed if it was alleged that an injustice might have resulted.

An *injustice* might result and a sense of injustice would result if, *for example, a judge for no good* or discernible reason discharged *three coloured jurors when a* coloured accused was being tried. A *capricious* exercise of discretion of that kind would undoubtedly be an irregularity in the course of a trial and would probably be adjudged to be a material one, too. If it was, the Court of Appeal would have to allow the appeal, subject to the application of the proviso: section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act.

It had been submitted that the trial judge should not have discharged the juror unless he was satisfied that there was "a high degree of need", and that her mere statement that she was going camping to Somerset on the *Saturday could not* amount to showing "a high degree of need" *with the result that there was no* material upon which the judge *could properly* have exercised his discretion as he did.

The *trial judge* had had the benefit of observing her demeanour as she said what she did. Further, when a fellow juror had offered to delay the start of his holiday, she had made no similar offer. With hindsight one could see that it would have been better if the trial judge had asked for more information about her holiday. Nevertheless, he was entitled to infer that going on holiday on the date she had arranged was important to her.

Times had changed since the days when a jury which could not agree could be put in a cart and driven to the boundary following the assize judge in his travels to the next county. *Trial by jury* these days depended upon the willing cooperation of the public. Those summoned to serve as jurors were *entitled to such consideration* as it was within the *power of the courts to give them.* If the administration of justice *could be carried on* without inconveniencing jurors unduly it should be.

Discharging a juror whose holiday arrangements would be interfered with by having to stay on the jury after being sworn no longer hindered the administration of justice; trials could go on as long as there were nine jurors. Anyway, an aggrieved and inconvenienced juror was not likely to be a good one.

The court had not overlooked the argument that the discharge of a juror deprived the accused "of the voice of one juryman in the jury room in the consideration of the verdict": Lord Justice James in *R v Goodson* (1975) 60 Cr App R 266, 268). That was a loss which Parliament must have contemplated would happen and was one which an accused must suffer provided always that it had not come about by any capricious act on the part of the trial judge. In the circumstances of the present case there was nothing *capricious* about what the trial judge did. There was no reason *for criticizing the exercise of his* discretion. The appeal would be *dismissed*.

Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal *Appeals; Solicitor for the Metropolitan Police.*

Family Division

Unconditional adoption order best for child

In re B (a minor)

Before Mr Justice Dunn

[Judgment delivered March 22]

It was in the interests of a girl aged *six* years with a disturbed history to be adopted unconditionally, Mr Justice Dunn said when refusing to attach to an adoption order conditions allowing the *paternal grandparents* to *see and* have communications with the child.

Section 8 of the Children Act, 1975, *provides*: "(1) An *adoption* order is an order vesting the parental rights and duties relating to a child in the adopters, made on their application to an authorized court. . . . (7) An adoption order may contain such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit."

Mr Gordon Hodgson for the proposed adopters; Mr Stephen Hockman *for the grandparents*; Miss Anita Ryan for the Official *Solicitor as guardian ad litem.*

HIS LORDSHIP, in a judgment *in public after a hearing in* chambers, said that the girl had been born out of wedlock in September, 1971, her parents having been living together. Her mother died in July, 1972. Before being taken into care by the local authority the child had lived with the father and the woman he had *married, then with the grandparents.*

In May, 1975, the grandparents applied in wardship proceedings for guardianship. His Lordship had refused that application, confirmed the local authority's resolution and ordered the *girl to* remain a ward of court. At the time the intention was that the child should be fostered by the proposed adopters.

In his judgment his Lordship had indicated that the grandparents should have access to the child at the discretion of the local authority. *The child had* been with the proposed adopters since October, 1975.

In the present proceedings by the proposed adopters, although the father's consent was not required, he had given his consent and insisted that it was in the child's interests for him not to have further contact with her. All the parties agreed that the adoption order should be made, but the grandparents had asked that conditions should be attached allowing them to have access.

In re J ([1973] Fam 106) was the first reported case of an adoption order being made with conditions. The Court of Appeal in *In re S (A Minor) (Adoption Order: Access)* ([1976] Fam 1) *had approved that decision but* had said that conditions were to be imposed only *in exceptional* circumstances. Both cases were not dissimilar; both concerned the adoption of the child by its mother and her husband; and in both cases the natural father and the mother had lived together for some time so that the child had known its natural father and the adopters had agreed to the conditions. The present case could be *distinguished as the adopters* were strangers and the natural father *was not involved*.

After his Lordship's judgment in *the wardship proceedings*, the local authority had arranged for the grandparents to meet the child. Those meetings were not successful and eventually the child had refused to go. The last meeting was on July 4, 1976.

The grandparents admitted that the meetings had been an ordeal *but said that it was unnatural to* meet at a residential nursery or *in the social worker's office*. They did not want to lose contact with her altogether and wanted to send her cards and presents and to see her from time to time.

The attitude of the proposed adopters was that the child had had a *disturbed past*; that she was upset at meeting her grand*parents; and that they would en*courage the child in their own way and in *their own time* to find her natural roots.

His Lordship considered that the grandparents had forfeited the trust of the adopters in that they had instructed an inquiry agent to make inquiries about their circumstances. The *social* worker said that the child had *no* parents and *needed not just caretakers* but parents legally and emotionally.

Unless the proposed adopters accepted freely an agreed term as to access in the adoption order and were willing to see it work, his Lordship foresaw difficulties in incorporating conditions for access into the order. The child's welfare required her to start life afresh in her new family. The wardship would be discharged and the adoption order made.

Solicitors: Brethertons & Co; Sonley Tee & Co; The Official Solicitor.

THE ARTS

A star is stillborn—looking like Harpo Marx

David Robinson

Star Is Born (AA)
'arner West End

hikamatsu
lonogatari (A)
ate Cinema

lerry Go Round (U)
ectric Cinema

easure At Her
lajesty's (A)
cademy
inema Three

'alter Forde Season
ational Film Theatre

a scenario *A Star is Born* s all it takes. It is about ollywood and the glamour of urs. It has one star shooting ; and that is irresistible; d one falling from the heights to total eclipse and as ectacle that is irresistible too. e two meet, love and marry plosively; and the falling e—the man—goes out in deeming self sacrifice, Capin Oates style.

Before it was first brought the screen, in 1937, no one nted to make it, because it d a sad end. After it became success, everybody wanted to aim it. The director, William elman, insisted to the end at the story was written by mself and his frequent llaborator Robert Carson. e producer, David O. Selzck, however, questioned in one of his famous Memos, whether Wellman was entitled to a bonus for it because *A Star is Born* is much more my story than Wellman's or Carson's. Selznick's claim deserves consideration since five years earlier he had made a film *What Price Hollywood?* starring Constance Bennett, which looks very like a prototype for the later picture.

What Price Hollywood?, as it happened, was directed by George Cukor, who in 1954 was to direct the first musical remake of the story. The script of this version is credited, elaborately, to Moss Hart; based on a screenplay by Dorothy Parker, Alan Campbell and Robert Carson, from a story by William A. Wellman and Robert Carson.

The Parker-Campbell dialogue contributed a great deal of the attraction of the earlier films, but has little part in the latest remake. The script of this is officially credited to "John Gregory Dunne & Joan Didion and Frank Pierson" (sic) and "Based on a story by William Wellman and Robert Carson". This it seems is only part of the story: batteries of writers are alleged to have worked on it, just as there seem to have been several changes of director. The film was begun by Jerry Schatzberg, who left it late in 1974. It was briefly taken over by Barbra Streisand's friend and hairdresser Jon Peters, but finally credited to Frank Pierson, who seems first to have arrived as a writer.

There is no doubt however of the ultimate authorship of this version. Ms Streisand (as she persistently appears on the credits) is not only star but executive producer (while hairdresser/friend Peters is Producer), and was responsible for "Musical Concepts". Even her costumes, the credits whimsically state, are from "her closet". She is composer of two of the songs (though the numbers "Queen Bee" and "Crippled Cow" come from other hands). Ms Streisand, indeed, dominates. As if to stress the point through her on-screen relationship with Kris Kristofferson (the falling star to her ascendant one) she goes through most of the picture wearing men's suits while he wears pretty blouses and submits to having his face made up while sharing the bath with her.

Barbra Streisand beneath a mop of yellow curls

It was a calculated risk (apparently the idea of the original writers Dunne and Didion) to update the story by setting it in the world of rock music, to provide the seventies' equivalent to the glamour and brutality of Hollywood in the golden years. The gamble has not paid off, finally, because the music would so clearly not make it to first base (or whatever the appropriate musical metaphor would be) with real rock fans. This factor adds to the embarrassment of the inevitable cliché they-came-to-jeer-and-stayed-to-cheer sequence, when Ms Streisand's debut at a mass pop concert wins over a hostile audience.

The earlier versions of the story were not so handicapped; and into the bargain they had dialogue. This one has to rely on clichés spiced with four-letter words. The previous versions had male stars—Frederic March and James Mason respectively—who had wit, sophistication and highly developed professional skills. This has Kris Kristofferson, who grows on you, which is in itself not enough.

The previous female stars who created the role of Esther Blodgett, the girl who achieves stardom as Vicki Lester (here she is, and stays, Esther Hoffman) both had irresistible charm and great gifts of pathos—Janet Gaynor wistful and quiet, Judy Garland heart-breaking. When Barbra Streisand assaults you at the end with three scenes of climatic mawkishness you are more than conscious that they are being played by the Executive Producer. The tears are all special effects.

The film will no doubt be a ball for Streisand devotees. For the rest of us, she doesn't even look very nice in it. With a hairdresser as producer they presumably knew what they were doing when they gave her a mop of yellow curls which disconcertingly recall Harpo Marx. The cameraman, at other points, has a nasty way of coming up on her from behind the left ear, catching her (cf the bath sequence) with her singer's throat all crumpled, and giving her the look of Bernhardt in old age.

Apart from this unhappy spectacle, all that London offers this week is a further, excellent crop of oldies. The Gate Cinema is presenting Kenji Mizoguchi's 1954 adaptation of a Japanese Kabuki classic *The Legend of the Grand Scroll Maker* by Monzaemon Chikamatsu. Mizoguchi acknowledged the freedom of his treatment by calling the film simply *Chikamatsu Monogatari* (*A Story by Chikamatsu*). The play itself was based upon an actual incident in the late seventeenth century; and Mizoguchi uses it to illustrate the strict social order that tyrannically prevailed at the period, when not only adulterers, but too complaisant cuckolds were liable to severe punishment.

The story concerns the Grand Scroll Maker of Kyoto, the miserly Ishun, and his beautiful young wife Osan, who is unwillingly thrown into the arms of the scroll-maker's assistant Mobei by her husband's meanness and insensitivity. The couple flee together; through pursuit and punishment their love grows to an *amour fou*, in the fulfilment and rapture of which they go finally to their crucifixion.

Mizoguchi's passion for the graphic arts of Japan is most strongly demonstrated in this film—in the way the settings are used to reflect the fortunes and feelings of the people (the formal, geometrical interiors of the marital home and the wide romantic landscapes into which the lovers flee); in the way, like the *gakan* prints and drawings of the period, he suggests great depths of eroticism by a glance or a flutter of a hand.

At the Electric Cinema, in a season devoted to the work of Erich von Stroheim, there is a rare revival of *Merry Go Round* (1922), the first of the great but ill-fated Viennese trilogy which continued with *The Merry Widow* and *The Wedding March*. Set in the years around the First World War, the story reveals a bitter, satirical vision of the Imperial City—Stroheim's own birthplace—not so far removed from that of Odön Von Horvath. The theme which was almost obsessive with Stroheim, is that of a simple working girl fascinated, seduced and deceived by an aristocrat—not a villain, but a victim of his class and times.

Not for the first or last time Stroheim's costly perfectionism and autocratic style frightened the producers, and he was replaced on the film by Rupert Julian (later director of the first *Phantom of the Opera*). The feeble happy end can confidently be attributed to the period after Stroheim's dismissal. A great deal that is very evidently Stroheim, nevertheless remains in the meticulous recreation of the place and the period, in the highly sophisticated development of the characters, and the (for the period) startling suggestions of sexuality and depiction of pathological characters like the sadistic merry-go-round proprietor.

The National Film Archive and National Film Theatre are shedding more light on the dark age of the British cinema in the 1930s, with a Tribute to Walter Forde, who was a contemporary of Hitchcock at Gaumont British. Forde had come into films from the music hall and his earliest work was as star in his own *Walter* series of two-reel comedies.

Having arrived as a feature director late in the twenties, he revealed all the resourcefulness of an old vaudeville pro, and an eclecticism which may be one of the reasons he has not been firmly pinned down by the history books. The Tribute includes, for example *Bulldog Jack*, one of a series of comedies with Jack Hulbert, which includes a stirring chase through the Central Line of 1935; an adaptation of *Chu Chin Chow* with George Robey, Fritz Körtner and Pearl Argyle; and dramas like *Forever England*, *Four Just Men* and *Rome Express*, Forde's best-remembered film.

Problems of being earnest

In The Making
BBC 2

Alan Coren

The importance of being earnest has led many a worthy soul into the snare of pretentiousness; and on the strength, or rather the weakness, of last night's premiere for his new series I have to say that John Read has not trodden with the care his theme requires.

For the theme of these 13 films is what Mr Read sees as the revival of craftsmanship in Britain; he is to look at those devoted and painstaking artificers—cooks, printers, glass-blowers, ropemakers and the like—who work at that happy point where art meets craft, and whose chief satisfaction lies in making something as well as it can be made. Puritan aesthetics, if you like. But the problem in celebrating such people is that what they are is as important as what they do, so that our first response to them and their artifacts is admiration. We are not stunned, thrilled or moved, as we might be before a painting or a poem, and there is in consequence little to hold us beyond the recognition that here is a good man doing a good job. Matchless though a length of rope might be, it is still rope; the satisfactions of a major cake are undeniable, but they are also circumscribed.

Unfortunately Mr Read has chosen not to leave it at that. Last night's presentation of a gentleman blacksmith was not only couched in romantic commentary and shot with romantic lenswork, it was also interlarded with the subject's own reflections on his work, and it must be said that the skill and dignity of that work came dangerously close to being lost in rather precious self-revelation. "Moments of exultation shot through with fear", was how the blacksmith described the manufacture of a poker. "One loses consciousness of self, for the whole mind is in the work." Asked what he did when the day's toil was over, he murmured: "I just like to be very, very still." Fine, but when that same man, a moment before, has averred: "I don't think of myself as an artist, but as a workman" are we not perhaps entitled to inquire who *is* kidding whom?

Firm-minded casting

Stevie
Vaudeville

Irving Wardle

From the standpoint of near-ignorance of Stevie Smith's work, I am grateful to Hugh Whitemore's play for making me keen to read it. Plays are not poetry appreciation classes, but any piece that manages to lock poems into the life that produced them and to dispatch them like so many rockets, is not to be treated patronizingly by the likes of me.

A maiden lady who divided her life between modest job in the City and an aunt in Palmer's Green, Stevie Smith is as unpromising a candidate for dramatic treatment as Emily Dickinson, and Mr Whitemore makes no attempt to impose any plot on that; uneventful suburban existence.

He tells what story there is in the simplest possible manner. Stevie comes home after a bad day at the BBC with her hated producer George Orwell, and starts exchanging reminiscences with her aunt over a cup of tea. Once begun, the play continues to hug straight chronology through to the end. At first you are left wondering whether she is talking for the aunt's benefit or ours, but after a while it ceases to matter as the two characters have taken such firm hold.

The test of the relationship is that it becomes perfectly acceptable for conversation about the day's news, or getting the meat in the oven, to be punctuated with Stevie's poems and sepulchral sayings ("Death is my servant: he's got to come if I call him.") It is a contact between two loving friends, both contented with bread-and-butter domesticity, one of whom happens to have been singled out by Apollo. Not, it seems, anything she would have chosen for herself: "If I had been the Virgin Mary, I think I should have said, 'No'."

Seated at the margin of John Gunter's cosily net-curtained set, there is Peter Eyre, who pops up as a spurned lover, interviewer, reluctant chauffeur, and other males in Stevie's life. But even these fully dramatized scenes steer well clear of the private areas of her mind. Her attempted suicide, for instance, is merely reported; it is left to the poems to take one further than that.

No figure could be further removed from my recollection of Stevie Smith as a tiny Beatrix Potter mouse scurrying through *The Observer* offices than the voluptuously pugnacious Glenda Jackson; a most firm-minded piece of casting which turns out to have far more to commend it than star appeal.

Even attired in straight, little girl dresses and ankle socks, Miss Jackson strains belief in her recurring complaints of low energy and is also in some danger of condescending to the beloved aunt. What she does triumphantly bring out is Stevie's route to her own form of self-sufficiency and the real authority of the voice within those deceptively unemphatic poems.

Clifford Williams's production also gives her a superlative partner in Mona Washbourne who takes domestic authenticity into its own poetic zone and presents as beautifully observed a study of the aging process as I have ever seen.

LPO/Haitink
Festival Hall

Stanley Sadie

This week is the sesquicentenary of Beethoven's death, and it seemed apt that the Royal Philharmonic Society, who once commissioned quite a passable symphony from him and helped him in his late years, should mark the occasion by devoting their monthly concert to his music. In the event the programme book made no reference to the occasion, or even to the connexion; and it turned out that the coincidence was, well, just a coincidence.

I was rather glad that it was; for if this had been a commemoration it would have been an unworthy one. The bright spot in it, and even that glowed only rather sporadically, was Isaac Stern. Bernard Haitink, who evidently has a penchant for slow tempos in Beethoven, embarked on the first movement for the violin concerto at a decidedly steady pace. There is always a risk in this movement of some lack of coherence if the basic pulse is too often relaxed; and with Mr Stern seeing the violin's voice more in the light of the poetically appealing than the heroically striving, it never really established any momentum.

But Mr Stern's playing is of course truly poetic and truly appealing. The tone was unfailingly sweet, the detail beautifully placed and expressed. The Larghetto, too, drew exquisite detail and fine silvery tone. It was not until the finale that we had anything like firm rhythm or incisive playing.

It seemed unworthy of the occasion, or would have done, had it been a special occasion, that the LPO use an outdated and corrupt text: they will find *echt*-Beethoven in the Eulenburg miniature score. Their orchestral items were the fourth symphony and *Leonore*, No 3 overture. Mr Haitink is establishing himself here as an opera conductor, and this opera-in-a-nutshell should have suited him; but it was marked by ponderous tempos and there was never enough sense of exaltation to justify the excitement of the coda. Nor indeed did the orchestral playing justify much excitement: horns blobbing when they should be ringing out in triumph, a good deal of unclean playing from the strings and some woodwind mishaps. Some of that was in the symphony. The virtues of that performance included a certain breadth of line and some graceful, well sprung rhythms in the later movements. But it was a reading with little thrust or sparkle, indeed little positive character at all. At the end of the evening Beethoven's bust seemed to be glowering more heavily than usual.

London Sinfonietta/Davies
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Griffiths

I have been bowled over by a new piece played by the London Sinfonietta last night, and I doubt that I can yet deal adequately with the experience. But imagine bright echoes and a sure ground, scurrying strings against a counterpoint of wind and metal, imagine a group of soloists taking turns to emerge with a discreet flamboyance, imagine a musical discourse that grips and will not let go, imagine a climax of searing shimmer and a conclusion in a last gasp which is as inevitable as it is appalling. Imagine all that and you may glimpse a little of what made Peter Maxwell Davies's *A Mirror Whitening Light* such a revelation and a marvel.

The effect was, I suspect, all the greater because I was not prepared for music of this quality, even after all the miracles Davies has brought back from his composing home in Orkney. *A Mirror* now takes its place high among those achievements as another image of the northern sea and sky, referring as it does to a great cliff-bound ocean bay on which Davies looks out.

Beyond that, the title has alchemical connotations. It signifies the transmutation of base metal into gold, the action of mercury as a catalyst in that process and, by analogy, the purification of the soul. Hence the music's continuous transformation, its medieval insistence on the magic of number and its white-hot culmination.

But the work is much more than a metaphor of the alembic. As so often in the past, Davies bases his music on fragments of plainsong which he takes through a turmoil of contortions and development. There is now, however, no suggestion of the demented monk. The musical argument is clear and very beautiful, riveting and secure; the mastery of form and means is complete.

The premiere was superbly played by the Sinfonietta, with Davies himself giving a decisive articulation to his invention. I hope someone will take the opportunity to make a recording while the partnership is still fresh.

The rest of the programme, conducted by Walter Susskind consisted of music by Weill, the violin concerto and the *Little Threepenny Music*.

BBC SO/Colin Davis
St John's

Joan Chissell

Musicologists have long disproved that it was during the premiere of Haydn's D Major Symphony No 96 that a large chandelier crashed to the ground without slaughtering a soul. Of course there was no mention of "miracle" when the work was broadcast by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Colin Davis last night. Yet anyone sitting under that splendid central chandelier at St John's, Smith Square, could well have recalled the old tale, the more so since the work itself remains such a "miracle of sophistication, wit, beautiful orchestration, and charm", as Robbins Landon put it in one of the BBC's own music guides.

Mr Davis revelled in the first movement's startling dynamics and teasing tonalities. Nor could anyone have done more to throw major and minor aspects of the same key into sharper contrast in the Andante. Soloists rose to the occasion in that movement and the Menuetto. And if the concert finished earlier than advertised, it was certainly not because the finale was rushed off its feet. Mr Davis's *vivace assai* was not too fast for dots and dashes to tell.

Before moving on to Haydn Mr Davis reminded us of all that C minor meant to Mozart in an uncommonly urgent account of the Adagio and Fugue, K546. That brought the right contrast after Mozart's G Major Violin Concerto, K216, in the first half of the programme, a teenage miracle if ever there was one, and nowhere more so than in its enchantingly delicate slow movement.

The soloist, Sylvia Rosenberg, turned her back on mere daintiness and charm in favour of a broader, maturer commitment.

As appetizer, Mr Davis chose Stravinsky's Concerto in D for String Orchestra, which, lightweight as it is, still adds up to an arrestingly eventful 12 minutes. St John's acoustics were not ideal for the finale's *ben articulato* semi quavers, but for the most part he brought home the full savour of the dry and the sweet.

Some of these reviews appeared in later editions of

Musical high spirits in Monte Carlo

The year after next the Monte Carlo Opera House celebrates its centenary. Charles Garnier built it almost as a miniature replica of the Paris Opera. Indeed it was money from Monte Carlo's casino that helped to save the Opera when it ran into financial difficulties during the construction period, an affliction known to other state-subsidized theatres. Part of the deal was that Garnier should do for Monte what he did for Paris. He carried out his commission to perfection and then left the opera scene, although Nice along the coast was designed to his plans.

The theatre opened with a concert conducted by Romeo Accursi, whose orchestra had previously played Meyerbeer, Hérold and Gounod twice a day to drive away the melancholy of those who had not done too well at the gaming tables. Hérold is duly honoured on one side of the auditorium together with Mozart and Verdi; on the other Gounod is joined by Rossini and Gluck. The story of the early years is told in Tom Walsh's excellent *Monte Carlo Opera*, although he stops short of the premiere of Massenet's *Don Quichotte* (Massenet was much taken by Monaco and the Monegasques by him) and the beginnings of the Ballets Russes.

In advance of its own centenary Monte Carlo has just been celebrating another anniversary, that of Mstislav Rostropovich, whose fiftieth birthday is on Sunday. The cellist chose Monte Carlo for one of his two French birthday concerts, the other being in Paris. He certainly gives his audience full measure: two concertos by Vivaldi, one each by Boccherini and Haydn and Bach's second suite for solo cello on paper look like a musical marathon. Rostropovich must surely be the only cellist in the world who can make such a programme pass by almost in a flash and without a trace of monotony.

The Vivaldi pieces were aperitifs, appetite-wetters for Bach and for a dazzling account of Haydn's C major concerto. Rostropovich is above all a joyous performer, relishing the wit of an instrument other players make sombre. At one point he seemed to catch sight of a large female cellist, much like Lady Jane in *Patience*, on the Opera's painted ceiling celebrating the four muses and gave her a colleague's wink. Beyond the good humour there was music-making of considerable intensity, aided by the intimacy of this house, which seats under 600, its superb acoustics and the elegance of the strings of the Monte Carlo Orchestra.

At the end of the evening Rostropovich was presented with the Grand Prix Charles-Cros for his services to the recording industry last year. Rostropovich blew his audience a kiss, gave them a symbolic hug and contented himself with a single sentence, "Merci. Je vous aime!"

Prince Rainier and Princess Grace were present at this performance and also for the major new production of the opera season on the next evening, *The Barber of Seville*. Monte Carlo drew to some extent from La Scala's *Barber*, using the same Zedda edition and taking Enzo Dara and Paolo Montarsolo for Bartolo and Basilio respectively. Margherita Wallmann's production had little original to say about Rossini's opera; but the evening had considerable musical distinction, much of which came from the Almaviva, Ernesto Palacio.

Palacio's tenor has a fresh and clean timbre with the agility to cope with Rossini's brilliant runs. In many ways he is a young Luigi Alva and, not surprisingly, he is a fellow-Peruvian. He has not yet taken on Alva's high spirits and nimble movements, but there is plenty of time. In an opera world where stylish Rossini tenors seem even rarer than Tannhäusers who can stay the course Mr Palacio should have a full engagement book provided he does not overstretch his voice.

The Rosina, Lucia Valentini-Terrani, who was heard at Covent Garden as La cenerentola during La Scala's visit a year ago, also sounds an excellent prospect. She is inexperienced on stage and needs a more helpful director than Mme Wallmann, but the voice is finely focused and the notes come out with reassuring accuracy. "Bella voce! Bravissima!" Count Almaviva's compliments after "Contro cor" could be endorsed entirely after Valentini-Terrani had sung the aria.

Monte Carlo wisely framed these two young artists with experienced support. Sesto Bruscantini charged his way through "Largo al factotum" disregarding the conducting of Franco Mannino, but having quite literally got that one off his chest settled down to a well-characterized performance. Enzo Dara's doggy Bartolo, beaten almost before the opera begins, is a delight, and so is Paolo Montarsolo's tousle-haired Basilio.

Top: Rostropovich and birthday cake. Above: Ernesto Palacio in The Barber

John Higgins

Mud-slinging will not help to give our children a better education

The public hysteria has done a service in making education a matter of political moment.

Hysteria about the comprehensive schools reached a new pitch this week. On Monday BBC television's *Panorama* provided those who can afford to choose with a convincing alibi for not sending their children to such schools. Their film—which they failed to point out was made in a priority area school attended almost exclusively by working class children, perhaps as many as half of them from families who have recently immigrated to this country—concentrated, without saying so, on a lower ability, difficult class in a streamed school, and gave considerable prominence to probationary teachers, the beginnings of lessons and the antics of the camera conscious children in the back row.

To add fuel to the fire, Dr Rhodes Boyson and Professor Brian Cox's *Black Paper 1977* was published yesterday, a jeremiad of contentious statistics and ill-humoured moans about the failings of the comprehensives. (It is discussed in detail in *The Times Educational Supplement* today.)

With the exception of Professor Geoffrey Bantock's thoughtful and radical suggestions for a new approach to working class education (the introduction of which would hardly please the *Black Paper's* editors nor most of their supporters) those who are concerned to put right the evident failings of the maintained schools will look in vain for constructive suggestions among the 22 papers.

Failings there are. Bad behaviour, bad manners and dreary teaching exist in many schools—too many schools. (Though who can say, wherever they were educated, that they never talked in class, read novels under the desk or fired ink pellets with a ruler at swotty colleagues in the front row?) For too many children, serious study requires deliberate and sustained rejection of the blandishments of fellow pupils. And even then the offerings of the teachers may not be worth the effort. Her Majesty's Inspectors, who recently published a report on modern language teaching in comprehensives, were shocked at the parlous state of affairs they found.

It is easy enough to identify such problems, to film them and write about them, easy to blame bad teachers and bad administration, easy to find excuses in the decay of inner cities, the rapid expansion of the school population and the resulting teacher shortages and high turnover of recent years, the influx from the new commonwealth, the changes in family patterns and attitudes to authority, local government reorganization, comprehensive reorganization and so on.

Easy but not altogether helpful. The public hysteria—concern is perhaps a kinder and more constructive word—has done a service in making education a matter of political moment. It has made it politically expedient for Mr Callaghan to break his 30-year silence on the subject. It has led to the appointment of a forceful and persuasive minister and the staging of a series of regional debates which will be followed by a white paper in the summer.

Today the penultimate regional debate is being held in London. The outside trumperings contrast strangely with the atmosphere of cautious and polite moderation that has characterized these meetings so far: moderation to the point of banality and tedium.

But this *sotto voce* insecurity is part of the same thing. The maintained education service is suffering from low morale and public spending cuts. Those engaged in it as teachers, administrators, examiners, politicians know that while the problems and failures are obvious, the cures are subtle and difficult.

How do you make the existing stock of teachers better, since there is little opportunity now to draft in large numbers of high calibre recruits even if they exist? How do you produce in schools which bear the whole brunt of today's social upheavals—schools which cannot select their clientele or readily expel the recalcitrant—the sort of time and tranquillity which are needed to foster the diverse talents of all the children? How do you do this without more money?

What sort of curriculum guidelines and systems of assessment will help to produce higher standards and more continuity without undermining professional self-confidence, destroying initiative, stoking up paranoia and providing a prop for the lazy and scarcely competent who can scrape the minimum required standard on a minimum of effort?

The attempt to tackle these matters is not assisted by a politically polarized slanging match. Agreement is required to keep a very rocky vessel on an even keel. Boring it may be and bad for the audience ratings, but it is more conducive to constructive thought than is throwing mud.

Auriol Stevens

The author is deputy editor of The Times Educational Supplement.

Twenty years ago, a front seat at the great design that became the Treaty of Rome

Roberto Ducci, Ambassador of Italy to the Court of St James's, was present at the signature of the Rome Treaty establishing the European Community, whose anniversary is commemorated today by the heads of government of the nine EEC countries, meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Callaghan in the Palazzo dei Conservatori on the Capitol. From 1955 to 1957, Sgr Ducci was Chairman of the six-country Institutional and Drafting Committee, which met regularly in the framework of the Brussels Conference of Foreign Ministers, preparing their discussions and translating their decisions into the text of the Treaty. Later Sgr Ducci Delegation to the UK-EEC negotiations of 1961-63, and continued to be active during the following years in the field of European integration. Here he recalls the events and the hopes of that auspicious day, March 25, 1957, which marked the birth of the European Community.

In the afternoon of that day, 20 years ago, a fresh westerly wind was pushing large grey clouds across the Roman sky. There were frequent showers, but the air scented of spring. One sensed that the sun might reappear at any time, before the night set in. It was a typical March day in Rome.

Not many were the onlookers on the Capitol as the black limousines, driving under the outstretched arm of Emperor Mark Aurelius, halted at the door of the Palazzo dei Conservatori to land their cargo of men more or less great, with faces more or less familiar. Into the palace went the already mythological figure of the German Chancellor, Adenauer; the Foreign Ministers of Belgium, France and Holland, Spaak, Pineau and Luns; the Prime Ministers of Luxembourg and Italy, Bech and Segni.

In a few minutes the Six (or more precisely the 12, because two people for each country were signing the treaty) were seated at a long table in the Sala degli Orazi e Curiazi, ready to listen to the ceremonial speeches. Behind each pair of ministers was a small group of advisers and private secretaries, chosen primarily among those who having been on the battlefield in Brussels now deserved to be at the triumph on the Capitol (not very far from the Tarpeian Rock, in any case). I was in the group of the Italians, having spent most of my days since October, 1955, working in Brussels on the great design.

That 12 plenipotentiaries were gathered on the Capitol on March 25, 1957, was due to an initiative of Paul-Henri Spaak. On February 27 the six foreign ministers had met for the last time in Brussels to tie up the loose ends. When the last of the square brackets in the draft had disappeared, Spaak turned to me—I was sitting on his left as chairman of the drafting committee—and asked whether there was anything else to discuss. "Not that I know, Sir", was my answer, and Spaak said: "The treaties and protocols with their annexes stand therefore approved by the six governments." An applause rose from the other five ministers, and was taken up by the whole assembly. The eyes of some people were filled with tears, most hearts were full of content.

The great enterprise had started with little more than generic good will, we had lost Britain en cours de route not without dismay, we had successfully gambled on a favourable turn in French parliamentary opinion, we had conceded a lot to mollify the people of little faith, we had found a bit of luck in the unlucky Suez war which had convinced the French Socialists that there was no more room in world politics for the nation-state of yore. The treaty was there, in front of us, ready to be signed.

"Gentlemen", said the Socialist Spaak when silence was restored, "we still have one decision to take—namely, in which city the ceremony is going to be held. I propose that we choose Rome, the most august of our capitals, whence three times in history civilization came to Europe."

All eyes turned to the Italian minister. Gaetano Martino, a tough Liberal professor of physiology, who had been involved in the negotiations since their inception in his native town of Messina in June, 1955, did not fail to recognize the motives underlying Spaak's lofty suggestion. If Belgium proposed that the name of Rome be coupled to the historical event, how could Italy not return the courtesy by approving Brussels as the seat of the Community's institutions? Martino, a good sport, spoke briefly: "I am honoured to extend to my colleagues, if they all concur, an invitation to come to Rome for the ceremony. We shall sign the Treaty on the Capitol."

So, on the Capitol were we, kings, knights and footmen. There had been a few minor hitches along the road to Rome. A few days earlier Adenauer had informed us that he himself would sign the Treaty; at once Segni said he was going to do the same. Their decision automatically expelled from diplomatic history the German and Italian chief delegates at official level; two extra gold medals had to be struck to dry their tears. On German insistence the Treaty, which had been discussed and drafted in French, had to be signed also in a German text (and therefore in Italian and Dutch texts as well). There had been no time to complete the three translations; and in any case there would have been no time to print on parchment four times 200 pages of text.

Italian ingenuity rose to the challenge; only a handful of people among those seated in front of the tapestries depicting the fight of the Horaces and Curiaces knew that the page on which the plenipotentiaries were going "to affix their signatures" "in witness whereof" was the only one where something had been printed: the 197 other parchment pages were completely blank.

Thus ingenuity, good will and good luck were present at the final ceremony as they had been throughout the long and tortuous way: but the success of the endeavour was not due to those factors only. Certainly the dream of the rapid establishment of a United States of Europe (a phrase coined by Winston Churchill in 1930) had been shelved after the failure to achieve it by the short cut of a defence union in 1954. But to establish an economic community, which was to be much more than a customs union and initially more than a free trade area, was in itself a success that nobody had believed possible two years before.

The goal would not have been attained if a little band of dedicated diplomats and experts under the guidance of Spaak had not proved that a credible blueprint could be drawn up (for months and months no politician paid any attention to what we were concocting in Brussels). If Jean Monnet had not kept the six governments under constant pressure through his committee of parliamentarians and trade unionists, if the stark realities of the present world had not been manifest in Dulles's and Bulganin's threats to Britain and France in October, 1956, if some of the faith of the halcyon years of 1948-53 in a common destiny and joint endeavour of the European peoples were not still smouldering in the breasts of statesmen.

An Economic Community would never have seen the light if the inspiration had not been political; we would never have covered the whole length of the road if the mirage of a more perfect union had not glittered at its far end. So was the Treaty of Rome negotiated, signed and given parliamentary sanction; and the withering of its political spirit is perhaps the main cause of the present waning of that proud enterprise.

The last of the many scores of signatures was finally affixed on the last of the empty volumes. Immediately the ancient bells were loosened in the tower of the Palazzo Senatorio, their solemn ring mixing with the brassy flourish of trumpets and reverberating through the air which had finally become serene. Through the windows came the pale-blue light which the sky of Rome reflects upon the earth when the west wind suddenly turns to north-west. In the Piazza there were many more people now, some cheering and shouting. A few friends and I sent off our official car and chose to walk down the ancient steps which from the Capitol descend to the houses of the Colonnas.

This was indeed, we felt, the most august place on earth, the spot where the Palladium of Troy had for a millennium safeguarded the City and the World, where the gods of distant tribes had found right of citizenship, where the altar of the New Alliance had replaced the shrine of Jupiter Almighty, where Michelangelo had erected the finest monument to the Renaissance.

And here, that same afternoon, the doors of hope had been flung open—it seemed—for us and for millions of men and women, who could now look forward to a happier future. Hastening towards Piazza Venezia we were feeling elated and young (we were young), as if our eyes had seen the dawn of a new century.

David Spanier, our Diplomatic Correspondent, writes: Alas, it did not turn out quite the way the founding fathers hoped. The tenth anniversary celebrations were also commemorated in Rome. It was, for me, one of the most dispiriting international meetings I have ever reported.

The President of the Commission, Professor Hallstein, the man who, like it or lump it, had done more than anybody else in Europe to create the Community as a living organism, was there on sufferance only. The French had allowed him to come but had refused him permission to speak.

On the most important question of the day, which was whether talks should be started to bring Britain into the Community, the general postponed and prevaricated. He told his colleagues that a study might be made of the British application but it must be "prolonged and profound"—a point which he stressed three times.

So for those who still felt a glow of the original ardour which inspired the Community's founders, there was little to celebrate. What the occasion showed was that the Community was out of balance. Until the question of British entry was resolved, the other five would never be satisfied.

The general did give the Community some colour, though. One must concede, in all conscience, that Britain's lacklustre performance in Europe seems to be justifying, at least in retrospect, some of de Gaulle's apprehensions.

Bernard Levin

Scandal can force open Russia's iron fist

This is the curious (and heartening) story of the Tribunal that did not bark in the daytime; and since it was due to bark this very day, its story deserves telling. For the release last week of Dr Mikhail Stern from the Soviet concentration-camp in which he had spent over two years is an extraordinary event, in its implications one of the most extraordinary in the whole course of the modern dissident and emigrant movements within the Soviet Empire. And since those implications seem to have been missed so far, I think it important to explain what they are.

Perhaps it will be useful if I first summarize the main points of Dr Stern's history. In 1961, during one of the periodic waves of Soviet anti-semitism, Dr Stern protested at the hounding of Jewish doctors in the area in which he lived and practised; for this he was himself accused of child murder in circumstances which made it seem likely that the ancient accusations of Jewish blood-sacrifice were about to be revived. The case was quietly dropped when the child he was supposed to have murdered proved to be alive and well, and possessed of an exceptionally courageous mother, who protested to the authorities against the false accusations.

But although Dr Stern was not proceeded against on that occasion, he was marked down for vengeance. When, in 1973, his two sons (but not, at first, he) applied for permission to leave the vast prison that is their native country, pressure was brought on him to prevent or dissuade them from proceeding with the application. He replied that he would seek neither to encourage nor to discourage them in the matter.

For this he was arrested, and at first was in danger of having the "ritual murder" accusation revived; interrogators brought pressure to bear on his patients to make charges against him of deliberate poisoning of children. Achieving such subornation proved so difficult, however (Dr Stern was an exceptionally well-loved physician), that this line of persecution was abandoned, and he was instead charged with a variety of offences such as demanding and accepting bribes for treatment or medicines. Again, threats were used against his patients to induce them to give false evidence; what is astonishing is not that some (only about 40 out of no fewer than 2,000 patients who were interrogated) gave way to the pressure and agreed to perjure themselves as required, but that so many refused. Some went further and formally protested, and one or two went further still and publicly protested at the trial that statements they had never made were being used as "evidence". And others publicly retracted false statements they had made. (All such protests were ignored, of course.)

After a parody of a judicial process crude even by the standards of Soviet justice (a full account of the proceedings, including the prosecution evidence—indeed, including everything except the sentence—was published by the Soviet authorities a fortnight before the court convened) Dr Stern was found guilty, and sentenced to eight years in a concentration-camp.

An almost unprecedented international campaign (one appeal for Dr Stern's release was signed by fifty Nobel Laureates) was launched on Dr Stern's behalf, culminating in the setting up of a Tribunal, to arraign Soviet anti-semitic persecution before the world, which was due to start its deliberations, in Amsterdam, today. This international Tribunal, organized by an equally broad-based committee, was to hold a two-day hearing into his case; it consisted of an eminent jury, before whom a series of experts in such fields as international law, medicine, human rights and the Soviet legal system would have reported on the case as it came within the purlieus of their specialities; in addition, there were to be witnesses to give first-hand testimony about the case (both Dr Stern's sons managed to get out of the Soviet Union in the end). For one of the most striking and repulsive features of Dr Stern's persecution is the fact that his arrest, treatment, trial and conviction were all illegal from beginning to end under Soviet law, quite apart from the laws of civilized nations.

So much for the story: now for the implications of his release. Until now, the effect of Western pressure on behalf of Soviet victims has worked in a largely indirect way, and results have been impossible to predict and difficult to attribute to any particular campaign or action. With the possible exception of Lord Olivier's perfectly-timed intervention on behalf of the Panovs, with its hint of restrictions on British-Soviet cultural exchanges, the release of Dr Stern is the only success that the campaigners can reasonably explain with reference to a specific Western action: the setting up, and imminent opening, of the Amsterdam Tribunal. *Ante hoc, propter hoc.*

It often surprises even some of those who keep a close watch on such matters that totalitarian states ever take any notice at all of protests outside. Why should leaders as ruthless and powerful as those of the Soviet Union care what people in free countries think about them and their rule? In the answer to that question there lie two great truths about modern totalitarianism, both of which offer comfort to its enemies and victims.

The first revelation is the more obvious: the Soviet Union has to take account of opinion in the rest of the world because her leaders know that opinion in free countries can and does affect the policies of those countries and, since Soviet policy is indivisible, to make the people of the free world more convinced that these tyrants mean to do freedom harm if they can would be to risk losing advantages that they might otherwise hope to gain.

The second, however, is the more important. When the Soviet leaders release some victim, order a court to impose a lenient sentence, expel a dissident rather than imprison him, it is a sign that they know that, though not a word of the truth is published or pronounced inside the Soviet Union, it gets there nonetheless. It has long ceased to be possible for any tyranny, however ruthless and strong, to hermetically seal a state within its own borders.

This has been true for some time, of course. But the release of Dr Stern, and its timing, makes it clear that the Soviet Union is susceptible to the most direct pressure, provided it is so applied as to achieve its effect at the right time and in the right way. The Soviet authorities knew that the Amsterdam Tribunal was due to hold its hearings at the end of this week; they knew that the result would be a very widely publicized indictment of their crimes, their inhumanity, their violations even of their own law, and of their anti-semitism. And they concluded that such a result would do them sufficient damage to make it preferable for them to release Dr Stern.

As I say, this may be the first such direct connexion between the pressure and the result, and is very heartening. It is also very useful; it provides a new weapon for those trying to help the victims of persecution in the Soviet Union. For instance, the organizers of campaigns on their behalf have long known that one of the most effective methods open to them is the organization of protests by scientific, academic, professional and similar bodies, contacts with which the Soviet authorities deem very important. But such protests are much more powerful when they are accompanied by a warning that cooperation will be withdrawn if the scandal to which they are directed is not abated.

From now on, with the case of Dr Stern and the Amsterdam Tribunal in mind, pressure can be much more effective. A threat by British scientists to withdraw from a scien[tific] gathering, say, if some p[ros]ecuted Soviet scientist or a[ny] of scientists is not left a[t li]berty, or a plan to indict some aspe[ct of] Soviet tyranny before a f[orum] that the Soviet leaders [find] important (at the moment, of course, the most notable [of] these is the forthcoming [con]gress of the World Psychi[atric] Association, where a d[etailed] attack on Soviet abuses [of] psychiatry is to be mount[ed], the withdrawal of an invita[tion] to some group of S[oviet] writers; a concerted i[nter]national public campaign [on] behalf of a particular vi[ctim] with the details of his p[light] being revealed in such imp[ress]ive circumstances and [sur]roundings as the Amster[dam] Tribunal would have provid[ed]: these are the ways in wh[ich] help can be provided in [the] most effective and product[ive] manner. The campaign for Stern's release was in no [way] unprecedented; alas, th[ere] have been too many individ[ual] cases of persecution that h[ave] required such campaigns. [But] the method chosen to press [the] campaign—the Tribunal [of] indictment—was new. A[nd] newer still was the effect [it] had. Dr Stern will certainly [not] be the last victim for wh[om] such help is devised; I fi[nd] it impossible to believe that [he] will be the last for whom s[uch] help proves successful.

The Times Diary

Drowning men in shotgun wedding

It is always a pleasure, the morning after some seminal event in the national life, to savour the hyperbole in the newspapers' reporting of it. Yesterday's accounts of the Lab-Lib deal were rich in metaphor, much of it mixed.

The image of what *The Sun* called a "shotgun marriage" was the obvious one, also employed in the *Daily Mail*, which had the two parties "viewing each other with all the ardour of bride and bridegroom after the trauma of a shot-gun wedding". For the *Financial Times* it was a "marriage of convenience".

The *Mail's* editorial had another view of Messrs Callaghan and Steel, as "drowning men clinging together". But this image became muddied three lines further down, where Steel was about to get "a place in the sun".

"The Unlikely Lads" was the headline in the *Daily Express*, over pictures of the new partners. And in the report, Ronald Bell, the Conservative MP, was quoted as calling it "the most remarkable twinning since Sodom and Gomorrah".

Those who opposed the deal did so with scorn and venom. *The Sun* styled it "a squalid, sordid little sell-out" and described Steel as "putty in the hands of Big Jim". In the *Express*, George Fitch thundered: "When Callaghan & Co have got over laughing, let them remember that they are relying for their survival on a bunch of clowns".

The Daily Telegraph was equally rude to the Liberals—"irredeemably wet", it called them. "Fate deals them four aces, and they threw in." But tiring of this metaphor, their leader writer switched to another, about the Liberals' teeth being in the "red meat of [illegible] it was the other way about, with Labour being forced to abandon the "red blood of socialism".

After that strong stuff, it was a relief to return to the headline over *The Guardian's* analysis of the day's events: "After the gloom, the sunlit uplands beckon". The image lacks realism, both in the political and the geographical senses, but it is nice to think that somebody believes it.

CHINESE LEAVES ISRAELI

This label from a pack of greenery appears to announce the poignant end of an inter-racial relationship.

No joke

It is easy to laugh at things one does not understand, but that is one of the reasons; I am here, so here goes. The lucky Dr M. J. Steedman, of Warwick University, has been awarded £7,844 of the Social Science Research Council's precious funds for a three-year project which seems, on the face of it, laughable. It is called "The semantics of temporal descriptions in English", and Dr Steedman describes it thus:

"The meaning of a temporal connective, such as the word [illegible] tions in time. However, the connectives are often ambiguous with respect to this relation, and depend for their interpretation upon the temporal or aspectual category of the propositions that they connect—compare 'He laughed loudly while I read the poem' with 'He laughed loudly while I was reading the poem'.

"In the first stage of the investigation the meaning of the temporal connectives and adverbials will be formulated in terms of a theory of the aspectual categories of propositions, stemming from Vendler's work on verbs. The semantics will be expressed as a computer program that will answer simple questions of fact using these words, about a model world involving the activities of a number of individuals sharing common resources.

"In the second stage the program will be extended to deal with questions (of?) possible states of affairs as well as matters of fact." Do you think the Social Science Research Council might give me any money for my recent research into "imply" and "infer", which seem much easier to understand?

Too loud

The idea that the British pub is a place where you call for a quiet and contemplative pint is clearly quite out of date. On Wednesday night a firm of brewers took over the Lyceum ballroom in the Strand to stage the finals of a pub entertainers' competition. The event was deafening.

The audience were several hundred publicans, their barmaids and favoured regulars. Large contingents came from pubs which had sponsored the 12 acts who had survived local and regional heats among the 2,000 original entries to reach the final. At many tables women in evening gowns, wearing feather boas and deep décolletage, were supping from daintily raised pint pots, while the menfolk, in lounge suits, were passing whisky bottles and pulling on large cigars.

The finalists included five solo singers, two duos, a rock group and a pseudo-Tyrolean band in lederhosen who came from a pub in Romford. Some had written their own songs.

But the non-musical turns took the honours. A boy magician took second place to the winner—a comic mime called Leslie Rae who donned a variety of wigs, hats, noses and moustaches to accompany a swift succession of loudly amplified recordings by male singers, before stripping to reveal that he was a woman.

"I don't know", said a glaze-eyed publican, staring deep into the bottom of his drained glass. "Once you've seen it, you've seen it, and that's all."

Gift horse

I was confronted with a nice moral dilemma yesterday. An international firm of jewellers invited me and some 35 others to lunch to introduce a new pen. Since several prominent writers were to be among the guests I thought I would accept, increasing my chance of becoming acquainted with the right sort of people.

Every place setting had before it a presentation box containing one of the sleek, gold-plated pens. I inquired how much they were worth and was surprised to hear that they sold at £70.

I felt strongly that I should not accept the gift, but when I discussed it with the company's public relations woman she pointed out that it would be illogical to decline. After all, I had already accepted their wines and reasonably excellent food (although my roll was so stale I could not break it). If I then turned down the pen it was on a question of degree rather than of principle.

She went on to point out that there was no question of obligation involved. If I went away and did not write about the pen (as I should not have done had I accepted one), they would not demand it back. "It is simply", she said, "that we like you to have nice things."

The other guests whom the firm wanted to have nice th[illegible] included Hammond Inn[illegible] Kingsley Amis, Lady Ann[illegible] Fraser, Alan Coren, Dea[illegible] Robins, Lord (Ted) Wi[illegible] James Burke and Bob Well[illegible] from television, as well as di[illegible] writers from *The Guardian*, [illegible] *Daily Telegraph*, *Harper's* [illegible] *Queen* and the *Sunday Exp[illegible]*. Lady Antonia had even brou[illegible] her 16-year-old son along so [illegible] they both accepted the gift [illegible] family would have been [illegible] worth of pens better off. [illegible] heart to the boy. He told [illegible] charmingly that he wanted [illegible] be a bloodstock agent, bu[illegible] he failed in that he would [illegible] sider becoming a journalist.

The PR woman was rig[illegible] is a question of degree. I [illegible] accept meals, books from p[illegible] lishers, tickets from thea[illegible] and even the odd bottle of bo[illegible] at Christmas, and I hope [illegible] this does not compromise [illegible] independence as a journa[illegible] But £70 pens are getting d[illegible] gerously close to the Pou[illegible] coffee-pot level. My line m[illegible] be quite arbitrary, but than[illegible] beyond it.

The lunch dragged on [illegible] past 3 pm and I was one of [illegible] first to leave, but, fr[illegible] observing those who did le[illegible] before me, my impression [illegible] that my scruples are not wid[illegible] shared in the trade. I [illegible] a guest in the lava[illegible] afterwards, fussing about [illegible] ting refills. If only I wer[illegible] bloodstock agent I would h[illegible] to make fewer painful decisi[illegible]

In an understandable atte[illegible] to improve its cultural tone, [illegible] Daily Mail Diary burst [illegible] Latin yesterday, with pre[illegible] ably disastrous results. Pr[illegible] Charles, it reported, [illegible] among the "alumnae" [illegible] Trinity College, Cambri[illegible] Should stand him in good st[illegible] when he becomes Queen.

PE[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

IVORY COAST

a Special Report

Despite blemishes, a promise kept

frey-Morison

t Félix Houphouët- and the Ivory Coast t in Africa for the rs of liberal trade stment policies and capitalism went t Julius Nyerere ania represents for . Both are held up supporters as bril- amples and living f the superiority of ems they are taken ent.

systems have their s, sometimes sur- similar ones. In ntries great differ- wealth between rich (or between politi- es and non-partici- remain. And both erfully suppressed al freedoms and their opponents ey have felt that demanded by the good of the state, or, r silenced critics are put it, when this nanded by a threat ruling group's posi-

ver, if ideological tions are put on one l appeal is made to s the Ivory Coast ent certainly has to recommend it. nationally the econo- prowess has been l, though many people y paid agricultural s, for example—do by a large share of conomic miracle".

independence in his formerly French- country of about 00 people has d a real economic rate of about 8 per year. No other West state, apart from es like Nigeria and blessed with oil, has d anything like this. imes statements by or spokesmen of the uët-Boigny Govern- ention the threat of communism and the develop and unleash arepreneurial skills. me respects the of the Ivorian much resembles an Yew of Singa- both have proved ting champions of ht after flirting with, arning the methods iles of, the com-

The political continuity and stability which the Ivory Coast has experienced since 1959 is not a mere accident or just the result of the continuing alertness and instincts for self-preservation of the President, though his statement that "I am like the crocodile—I sleep with one eye open" contains more than a grain of truth. Also the stability has been caused in large measure by the high degree of organization of the ruling party, the Ivory Coast Democratic Union or PDCI.

The pervasive, all-embracing nature of the party and its intensive cell structure (even students studying abroad are highly organized by the party) have much in common with the way a communist party is organized, even though in this case the party is devoted to western and capitalist ideas.

Again to draw a comparison with, or similarity to, Nyerere. President Houphouët-Boigny is an extremely interesting figure not only *because he has the gift* to set out his ideas in a coherent and intellectual manner but because, like Nyerere, he has gone his own way and has not hesitated at times to fly in the face of majority African opinion.

The President infuriated most African opinion by playing a key role in South Africa's (now almost defunct) policy of détente with black African states. In September, 1974, Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister of South Africa, paid a secret visit to the Ivory Coast where he had lengthy talks with the country's leader. President Houphouët-Boigny has never made any secret of the fact that he finds apartheid repugnant but says that he does not believe that a policy of isolation by the black African states, or hurling invective at Pretoria, will be effective in bringing about change.

President Houphouët-Boigny's belief in dialogue has been illustrated in recent weeks by his contact with Mr Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, even though the Ivory Coast, like the other countries of black Africa, long ago broke off all diplomatic relations with Jerusalem as a gesture of solidarity with the Arabs.

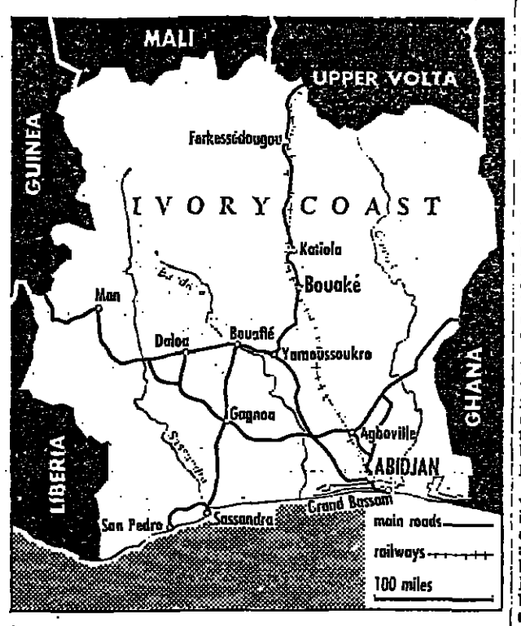
The secret visit by Mr Vorster to the Ivory Coast led to much-publicized visits by Dr Connie Mulder, the South African Information Minister, to Abidjan and a visit by his Ivorian counterpart, M Laurent Dona Fologo, to South Africa, where he vigorously attacked apartheid.

The South African authorities had to waive certain rulings on apartheid for M Dona Fologo. His white, French-born wife accompanied him throughout his visit although South Africa's "immorality laws" forbid marriage and sexual relations between black and white.

If the *Government's* policy of dialogue with South Africa has been the most newsworthy aspect of its foreign policy, the heart of or key to the Ivory Coast's foreign relations has been an extremely close, cordial and mutually profitable relationship with France. The source of most foreign assistance and the leading trading partner, France has also left an indelible mark on the country's culture and general way of life. Even today much of Abidjan, the Ivory Coast capital, looks very much a French city.

That the relationship has prospered has been due in large measure to the President, who has enjoyed close and cordial relations with Presidents de Gaulle, Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing. The ease of these relationships is explained, at least in part, by M Houphouët's image as "grand old man of French-speaking Africa" — something he shares with President Léopold Senghor of Senegal—and because he had played a key role in metropolitan French politics long before the Ivory Coast's independence.

If the policy of dialogue with South Africa has at times complicated relations with some of the other African states, the Ivory Coast has none the less managed to preserve good relations with most of its neighbours. *The most notable exception* is Guinea, whose far-left President, Sékou Touré, regularly fulminates publicly about President Houphouët's supposed political wickedness and accuses him of plotting with the French to bring about his downfall. Tens of thousands of President Sékou's fellow-citizens have shown how they feel about the respective merits of the two regimes by "voting with their feet" and establishing themselves in *the Ivory Coast where there* is a large Guinean exile community.



Otherwise relations with neighbours are generally good, with a particularly close working relationship with fellow members of the council of the entente: Niger, Togo, Benin, and the Upper Volta. The Ivory Coast also has close working relations with most of the other French-speaking states through their organization, OCAM, and is working within the West African Economic Community (CEAO) to bring about some practical steps towards greater economic cooperation between the French-speaking states of West Africa.

At one time Ivory Coast and other French-speaking West African states showed considerable suspicion and fear of Nigeria, the regions' most important power in economic and population terms, and this manifested itself in a number of ways, not least in sympathy for the secessionist movement in Biafra.

However, of late such suspicions appear to have largely died away and relations *generally between the* English and French-speaking states have improved. One sign of this is the progress being made in setting up the ambitious (but still nebulous in practical terms) scheme for an Economic Community of West African States which would cut right across the language barrier.

One reason for the Ivory Coast accepting, and indeed welcoming, such a scheme is that Nigeria is now seen not so much as a threat but as an opportunity. As the country's economy, once almost completely dominated by agriculture, expands and its industrial potential increases the search is on for markets. Where better than the rich market of neighbouring Nigeria, with its population of more than 60 million?

The author is editor, Commonwealth.

All the President's dialogue

by Patrick Gilkes

Ivory Coast in its 16 years of independence has managed to preserve an enviable record of economic growth and a rare political stability. These achievements have usually been seen exclusively in terms of one person, President Félix Houphouët-Boigny, in his personality, his style of government, his genuine Christian faith and in his cautiously pragmatic and conciliatory approach.

It is a style that can largely be summed up in a word that the President has made peculiarly his own—dialogue—and it has been the fundamental key to both his internal and external political policies.

"Whatever happens in a war, it ends in dialogue; but it is a dialogue more difficult than it would have been at the outset, carried out in hate, in fear of humiliation." It is this concept that has been the motive force behind the President's most controversial foreign policy initiative, that of détente with South Africa.

Buttressing this is his strong belief that communism and the threat it poses to Africa is growing and that a failure to solve southern Africa's racial problems will allow the opportunity for communist military interference. M Houphouët-Boigny does not see this just as a threat to southern Africa, for socialist ideologies also pose an obvious challenge to the liberal capitalist economy that he has allowed and encouraged in the Ivory Coast.

It is an economic system that is still essentially run by French advisers—there were some 5,000 French at independence, now there are more than 45,000, symbolizing his commitment to France and to Eurafrica. Another of the President's own concepts, it supplies what M Houphouët-Boigny believes most Ivorians want, which is development rather than ideology that puts *money in the pocket.*

He often emphasizes that he was born a peasant and proudly claims that he is still one, though as he puts it, *Le Premier Paysan.* While it is true that he has accumulated four houses, two of them in Europe, this perhaps underlines his commonsense and thrift and, he believes, provides an example for Ivorian peasants to aspire to.

M Houphouët-Boigny has been President and leader of the Ivory Coast since independence and the country is his own creation in many ways. Indeed, he seems to have been becoming more and more aware of what he sees as his own place in history as the country's creator.

As he has aged—he is now in his seventy-second year—he has shown this more obviously: most recently there has been the building of his $2m mausoleum in his birthplace Yamoussoukro. This is the crowning edifice designed to make the town a permanent memorial to "the father of the nation". Similarly the President's paternal attitude to his people has been growing and Le Vieux, as he also likes to be known, now sees himself as one who has fulfilled his role in history.

Who will take over from the leader?

Yet in a manner reminiscent of Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in his last years, M Houphouët-Boigny has failed to deal satisfactorily with the questions that have arisen as a result of his preeminence, most notably who will take over when he goes. It is a measure of his overwhelming position that the two names most mentioned today as possible successors are the same ones that were bandied about 16 years ago—Philip Yacé and Jean Baptiste Mockey.

Philip Yacé is President of the National Assembly and, by a recent constitutional amendment, designated successor if anything should happen to the President. More significantly, he is also secretary general of *the only political party, the* Parti Democratique de la Côte d'Ivoire (PDCI), and it is the party which holds the strings of power.

For all his dislike of communism the President has not been afraid to learn from it for the PDCI resembles nothing so much as a communist party in organization, though without the ideology. It is controlled by the President, through a 30-man political bureau and is highly organized right down to the village level. In its gift are educational and job opportunities. Loyalty to party policy is expected and the party is swift to reward loyal and obedient service.

The PDCI is an essential element in the President's control of the elite, and as such the secretary general is certainly the country's second most important person. Without the doubts about Philip Yacé's health—officially he has ulcers but there has been much talk of more malignant diseases—there is no doubt that he would succeed.

But he is very much a person in the Houphouët-Boigny mould and there are few who believe that he could or would provide what more and more Ivorians now think is necessary—policies to cope with the dangers slowly becoming apparent in the Ivorian system. These are the overall neglect of social problems and of health in particular, income discrepancies between urban and rural workers and between the elite and the mass of the people, the growing and unfulfilled aspirations of school and university graduates and the future of the role of France and French staff, as well as the future for the pool of a million or more cheap labour from Upper Volta, Mali and Guinea.

The whole basis of the "Ivorian miracle" is being questioned though still perhaps on an *individual level.* Dissent has never been institutionalized—indeed it is repressed with considerable rigour as during the workers' and students' strikes in 1968 and 1969 and again during the student strikes in January this year.

The President's famous *dialogues* have always been highly personalized. It was he who went to talk to the Ivorian students in France when they became critical of the country, and he returned from abroad to meet the students again this year. His intervention was successful and greeted as another triumph for dialogue, but as one disgruntled student put it: "A dialogue should be a discussion between two sides, not a monologue by one person."

One result of a failure to institutionalize dissent in any form has been that people who are seen as opponents of the President and who stand up to him in public do gain considerable support.

The most notable example of this is M Mockey whose years in jail after the 1963 plot and his refusal to come back into any position even *though he was rehabilitated* provided him with strong political and public sympathy. When M Mockey finally accepted reintegration into the party in 1975 and into the Government last year this damaged his standing in the eyes of some who prefer the few who have not compromised themselves.

But whatever the feelings among the younger members of the carefully chosen and controlled elite, there is no doubt that the President himself remains unchallenged as the leader of the Ivory Coast and will remain so until he chooses to retire or is incapacitated. When he *accepted reelection* for his fourth five-year term as President in 1975 he did so with apparent reluctance—many observers felt that he was planning to retire before the end and hand over to M Yacé.

M Yacé's illness has put this scenario in doubt and there are signs that the President is not yet quite ready to go. He may, of course, still do so—he has a love of secrecy that comes out over the question of government reshuffles which are frequently rumoured but seldom carried out.

But more and more of the Ivorian elite are beginning to have their doubts about the system that has cocooned and isolated them so effectively for so long, *and to feel that it should not* survive Le Vieux. The longer the succession remains in doubt the harder it will be for any successor to deal with the troubles the Ivory Coast will have to face in the near future.

Economic wager proves to be safe

by Alan Rake

On April 6, 1957 at the dawn of Ghanaian independence, Kwame Nkrumah paid a visit to President Houphouët-Boigny, his Ivorian neigabour. At a great reception at the magnificent new Assembly building in Abidjan, the two men made the customary ceremonial speeches, but neither could resist extolling the political economic system that they had chosen for their countries.

"You are witnessing the start of two experiments", President Houphouët-Boigny said. "A wager has been made between the two territories, one having chosen independence the other preferring the difficult road of building, with the *métropole* (France) a community of equal rights and duties. . . . Let each of us undertake his experiment, and in 10 years we shall compare the results."

The two West African neighbours had very similar economies, both predominantly agriculture-based, both about the same size with equally good land, both with the blessings and assistance of their former colonial power.

If anything, Ghana had a competitive advantage. It was streets ahead in education. Its middle class and Civil Service was larger and had a longer tradition. Its population was double that of the Ivory Coast and its income a head was higher.

Yet today, in purely economic terms, the Ivory Coast has outstripped Ghana on almost any economic indicator that one cares to select. If the West African wager was indeed an economic wager, then President Houphouët-Boigny's victory is patently obvious.

The Ivory Coast is near the point of economic take-off. Its growth rate is faster than that of any other African agricultural country. The gross domestic product has quintupled between 1960 and 1975 (rising 19.7 per cent in money terms and 7.7 per cent in real terms, after allowing for inflation).

Exports have increased seven times since independence. The turnover at Abidjan port has tripled. The *Ivory Coast is one of the few* African countries where one can drive almost anywhere on tarred roads (at independence the road network scarcely existed).

All the main towns have an efficient telephone system and automatic dialling has been introduced to Europe and the United States.

Since independence the Ivory Coast has become the third largest world producer of coffee and the second largest producer of cocoa. It overtook Nigeria as a cocoa producer in 1974 and plans to outstrip Ghana, too, in the current five-year plan period.

African consumption of palm oil has risen to such an extent that in most West African countries there is scarcely any left for export, but Ivorian production has increased seven times. Thousands of square miles of oil palm and coconut plantation are clearly visible to any visitor flying into Abidjan. The total planted area covers 80,000 hectares and by 1980 the Ivory Coast will be the world's largest producer.

At the time of independence coffee accounted for 57 per cent of Ivorian exports; today, because of the growth of other tropical products, it forms only 28 per cent of the total yet production has increased 3.2 times *since independence.*

There was consternation in the early 1970s because rising living standards were pushing rice imports to nearly 100,000 tonnes, double the quantity of a few years earlier. Then the Ivorian machine went to work and by 1975 a rice growing development programme had made the Ivory Coast a net exporter with a production of 300,000 tonnes of paddy.

The same story will soon be told about sugar. There is a net deficiency but the Lonrho-managed *scheme at* Ferkessédougou, and schemes by Redpath, the Tate and Lyle Canadian subsidiary, by the French Company Technisucre and by the Dutch HVA will make the Ivory Coast into a net exporter.

The country has not concentrated on traditional crops. It is growing more cotton, copra and rubber. In 1975, by exporting 70,000 tonnes of fresh pineapples, it became the world's leading exporter and its banana production is considered to *be doing badly because,* although it supplies 3 per cent of the world market, exports have been stagnant.

The miracle is not entirely agricultural. Industrial production has increased at an anual rate of 23 per cent between 1970 and 1974. The country has taken import substitution almost to the limit. It has made huge strides in agro-industry, food, timber and processing.

In textiles it has become the second largest producer in Africa and sells three *quarters of its production* overseas. *Its mills* are the only ones in Africa that are truly international in scale and able to compete with the Far Eastern producers.

The Ivorian miracle is statistically provable. Even the critics will admit this, but they will say that the Ivory Coast has been able to achieve its success only by building a "neo-colonial economy".

The first evidence of this is the presence of the French. It is President Houphouët-Boigny's political *stability* and *economic* liberalism, based on superb French planning and technical assistance, that set the Ivory coast on the right road.

There are 45,000 Frenchmen in the Ivory Coast (a quarter of them "*Coopermits*", the French technical assistants often doing overseas instead of national service). Another 5,000 of the total are colonial families that have been established in the country between 20 and 50 years.

But Ivorianization is *taking place here, too.* Now that the French have set up the machinery of good economic husbandry they are either moving on to areas of higher technology or the new generation is drifting back to France. The decision-making posts in the Civil Service are now totally Ivorianized and private firms have had to report and say what their plans are in this direction between now and 1980. But in practice, as industry and agriculture becomes more complex the need for expatriate skills *actually increases* and there are nine times more Frenchmen in the country now than at the time of independence.

That may be the price that any underdeveloped country has to pay if it is to become a truly modern country and it is one that the President almost gladly accepts.

On the question of ownership of industry, the state already finds that it has taken over as much as its limited resources will allow. That leaves a huge area for private enterprise and the *recent emphasis is on creating* "a nation of shareholders". The formation of the Stock Exchange last year, reorganization of credit institutions to help the small businessman and farmer, and help with the establishment of small and medium industry are at the very centre of government policy.

It is also significant that the Ivory Coast has achieved its magnificent growth rates without the exploitation of any large mineral resources. That has been highly advantageous. The distortions of a *single mineral-based* economy have been avoided and no big multinational mining companies have had the opportunity to extract the mineral wealth before proper government policy is formulated.

Another criticism of the Ivorian economy is that it is inegalitarian. But it is significant that even the critics admit that it is not the urban, commercial-industrial class that has benefited (as in Nigeria, for example). It is simply that the rich *farmer has been able to take* advantage of the good marketing and farm extension system and has outstripped his poorer brothers. The Ivorian has also benefited compared with the more than a million Voltaics and Malians who provide almost *all the Ivory Coast farm* manual labour.

But at least President Houphouët-Boigny created a dynamic growth economy and is in a position now to spend money on deprived areas (particularly in the north) and on welfare statism generally.

As a result of his policies the Ivorian income a head overtook the Ghanaian in the late 1960s, before the end of the independence decade, and now stands at $460 a head compared with Ghana's $430, *according to* World Bank figures.

Yet Ghana was almost a generation ahead, when the West African wager was struck.

The author is editor, African Development.

Susan Morgan reports on the remarkable progress of fishing, coffee, forestry and cocoa

Diversification pays

Agriculture forms the backbone of the Ivorian economy, but while in 1960, fishing, agriculture and timber accounted for 46.8 per cent *of the gnp, by 1970 that had* fallen to 30.1 per cent. It had risen to 31.4 per cent by 1975.

That does not imply that agricultural production and exports have fallen: on the contrary they have made *remarkable progress,* both as regards plantations of fairly recently introduced crops such as rubber and palm oil, and as regards prices—spectacular in the case of coffee and cocoa. The country is self-sufficient in agricultural produce, except for meat.

The Ivory Coast is fortunate not to have to rely on a single commodity like Cuba on sugar or Ghana on cocoa. At least one of its leading exports has always been able to obtain a high price on the world market. Only in the timber sector have exports stood still while attempts are made to conserve the fast-dwindling forests.

As well as the tried and tested export winners, the Ivory Coast has had considerable success with other cash crops. Those include *oil palm, cotton and rubber as well as expansion of existing* crops such as bananas. Industrially produced exports represented almost two million tons in 1974—at a total value of almost 80,000 CFA francs.

Oil palm has been remarkably successful. Malaysian experts visiting the country professed themselves amazed at the progress which has brought the Ivory Coast to the head of African producers and third in the world league by 1974. It represents *about 6.80 per cent of* world production, and grew from 2,000 tons of exports in 1969 to 88,000 in 1974. Palm kernels are also exported.

Coconut palms have done well. In 1975 a total of 39,500 hectares were planted with *coconut palms,* representing a potential production of 19,000 tons of copra.

Exports of natural rubber doubled between 1969 and 1973 to reach more than 15 million tons. Although the volume grew by only 2 per cent, price increases raised export revenue in 1974 to 2,700m CFA francs from 2,000m CFA francs a year earlier. There is a 7,700m CFA Francs rubber project at Béréby.

Cotton production is expected to reach some 130,000 tons a year by about 1980. The textile and spinning industries should stimulate production.

Production of tropical fruit such as pineapples, avocados and, to a lesser extent, mangoes is being stepped up. Some of the largest plantations belong to the President himself.

There are more than 500 hectares devoted to avocado growing, about half of it for export. The main area of re*search is to find small avo*cadoes to compete with Israeli ones. Export targets for 1980 are for 10,000 tons.

Pineapples have been developed for a decade and are exported both canned and fresh. The market for *fresh fruit* is proving stronger than for conserves and exports have grown from 50,000 tons in 1973 to 70,000 in 1975. The German market looks particularly promising.

Cola nut (of which the Ivory Coast is the world's top producer) grows naturally in the forest. Annual production is between 40,000 and 60,000 tons a year, 90 per cent of which goes to neighbouring African countries.

The most ambitious agri*cultural programme of all is* for a chain of sugar projects —each of which needs an investment of about 35,000m to 40,000m CFA francs.

Given its ambitious nature, it is possible that the sugar programme will use about a *quarter of public and semi*-public investments for 1976-78, that is about 150,000m CFA francs out of a total expenditure of about 600,000m CFA francs.

In 1973-74 the Ivory Coast imported a considerable *amount of sugar. The goal* is to produce 600,000 tons of sugar a year, of which 500,000, the minimum amount in terms of economic viability, will be exported. That project is expected to be completed by 1990.

The first complex at Ferkessédougou, started operating in 1975 and is expected to produce about 40,000 tons of sugar a year when at full capacity. It cost 35,000m CFA francs and was financed by a loan from Eximbank while Lonrho provided technical aid. Two other complexes are being begun and 11 others are being considered.

Some financiers and exports (mostly non-Ivorians) fear that these projects are over-ambitious, particularly in view of competition from EEC sugarbeet. Others, including the foreign sugar companies which are putting up much of the capital, are sanguine about the need for more sugar on the world market by the middle 1980s.

Rural labour is short in the Ivory Coast and although mechanization is increasing, 2,000 workers will be needed on each plantation.

The area under agriculture is being increased and new *high-yield* varieties and hybrids are being introduced.

It is hoped to increase coconut and oil palm production from one ton a hectare each to five to six tons a hectare each by 1980 by *means of hybrids.* Production of palm oil should reach 240,000 tons by 1980. The current price is more than £330 a ton.

There has been a leap in fish consumption, largely nourished by cheap and plentiful fish from Russian and Eastern European trawlers fishing in West African waters. In 1975 out of a total of 165,000 tons of fish consumed, 80,000 tons came from that source, 40,000 tons from the Ivorian industrial fleet, 29,000 to 30,000 tons from the traditional Ivorian fishermen (including inland lakes and rivers) and about 16,000 tons imported from Senegal.

The main constraint on expanding Ivory Coast fishing has been the remarkably narrow continental shelf—only about 10 miles wide—where fish are normally caught. That is why, with population and fish consumption growing, it is important for it to extend fishing agreements with West African countries which have more fish.

Agreements have been signed recently with Senegal and some fishing is done in Mauritanian waters. Negotiations are in progress for Ivorians to fish in Angolan waters, to replace the Portuguese fleet.

The other great constraint, given the distance of those fishing grounds, has been the lack of a fleet equipped with refrigeration facilities. Most boats have no ice-making equipment and can go no farther than Ghana or Sierra Leone. The Ivory Coast is planning to enlarge its own fleet to 50,000 tons by buying second-hand trawlers of between 1,500 and 2,000 tons at a cost of about 1,000m CFA francs a vessel.

Foreign companies have not flocked to participate in this enterprise, as they have in so many others. They are worried about its economic viability, particularly with such a large amount of East European and Russian frozen fish available so cheaply.

There is a tuna canning factory at Abidjan but the product is too expensive for most Ivorians.

A lot of smoked fish used to be imported from Mali, but after the recent Sahel drought that trade has dropped to about 12,000 tons a year.

What has transformed the industry and has had an *enormous impact* on inland areas are the fleets of refrigerated trucks bringing fresh fish to the markets. Any not sold on the first day is smoked.

Industry builds on sound agricultural base

by Godfrey Morison

The Ivory Coast's economic success has been based mainly on agriculture and is the result of liberal trade and investment policies within a series of carefully thought out planning guidelines.

Just as agricultural success has been founded on a policy of diversification—so that the dangers of monoculture evident in many African countries have been avoided—so the development of the entire economy is diversifying rapidly and moving away from agriculture into industry.

At the time of independence in 1960 *industry* was very small. In 1960 industrial turnover totalled 13,000m CFA francs; by 1974 it was 254,000m CFA francs.

During the first decade of independence the emphasis, *as in many other* African states, was on import substitution. However, from the start of the 1970s, industrial strategy has changed to a policy of encouraging the establishment of large concerns, particularly those oriented towards export.

The first sector in which this policy has been wholeheartedly applied is textiles, where the aim is to challenge the leading companies of the Far East. Since the Ivory Coast already produces large quantities of cotton the choice of textiles as the vanguard of industry also fits in with another basic policy guideline: the greater local processing of agricultural products.

More than 3,000 million CFA francs were invested in the textile industry between 1971 and 1974, which puts it well ahead of other leaders in the industrial sector such as chemicals, milling, drinks, canning and the important wood-processing industry.

Two large complexes have been established recently: UTEXI at Dimbokro, set up with finance from Japan, The Netherlands and France, will produce 12,000 tonnes of cloth a year; COTIVO at Agboville, is *slightly smaller (9,000* tonnes a year), and was also set up with international finance—from The Netherlands, France and the United States.

As in other sectors the hope is that processing *will be carried increasingly* far down the line and will not stop at the production of cloth.

At COTIVO village, for example, the United States clothing manufacturer, Bluebell, has set up a big factory for the production of sports and working apparel. Most of the production will be for export.

This is a pattern which will probably be repeated, and not just in textiles. The Ivory Coast was an enthusiastic signatory of the Lomé Convention and like the other African, Caribbean and Pacific states which signed this agreement with the EEC, it now enjoys substantial tariff advantages over other Third World and East European producers when exporting processed and manufactured *goods to* the EEC.

This, taken with the advantages of industrious labour (textile workers are prepared to put in about 8,000 hours a year compared with about 5,000 in Europe) and the liberal trade and *investment policies of the* Government, probably means that more firms in other sectors will set themselves up in export-oriented industry.

The policy of encouraging greater processing of local products is seen elsewhere, such as the processing of cocoa in chocolate production.

State and foreign capital play the preponderant role in industry but the Government wants to change this by encouraging local share*holding by individuals and* by developing a native class of entrepreneurs, who are *at present in short supply.*

OPEI, a government-backed organization for the encouragement of Ivorian business has to carry out this task and to find suitable people among the country's educated class who might become the businessmen of tomorrow instead of entering the professions or the Civil Service they traditionally do at present.

Along with its other fairly laisser faire economic policies the Ivory Coast has freely allowed the import of expatriates to man key posts in rapidly expanding industry, culture, government services so that the number of French people living in the country has increased ninefold since independence, when there were 5,000.

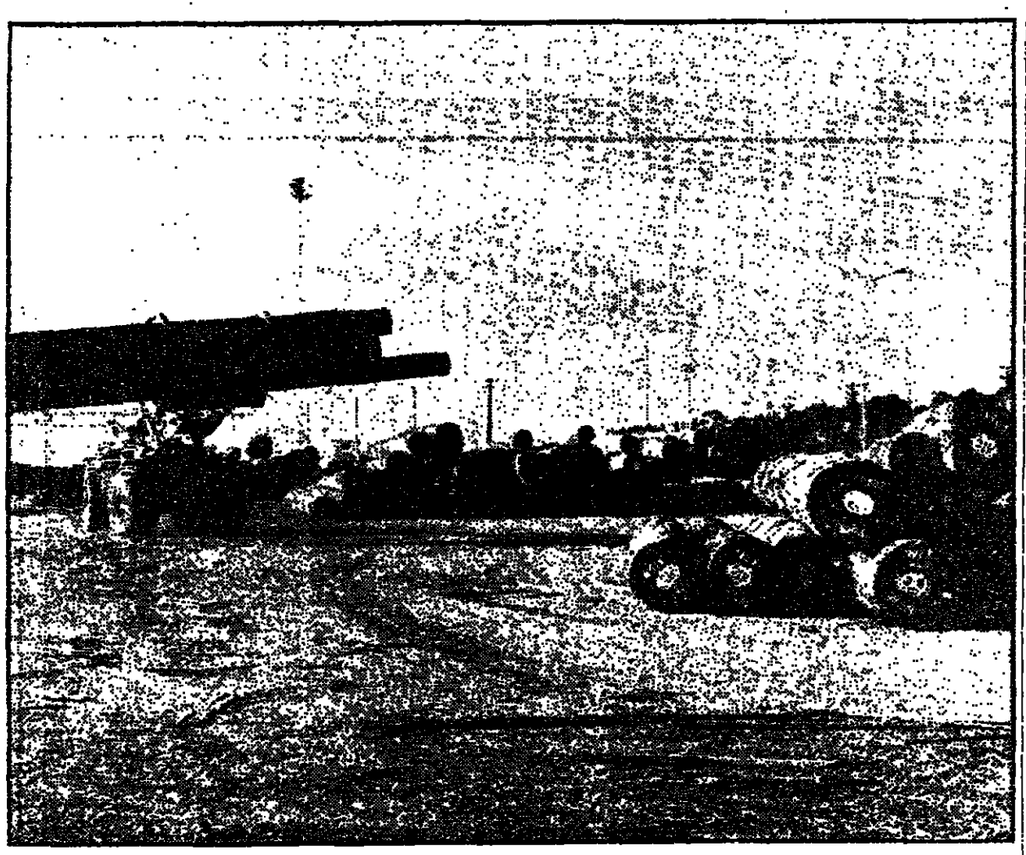
Total employment in industry has expanded rapidly—29,000 jobs in 1974, 46,000 six years later. However "Ivorianization" has until recently been slow. In 1972 61.2 per cent of workers in industry were Ivorian, 34.5 per cent were non-Ivorian Africans and 4.3 per cent were non-African (mainly French). Two years later the figures were little changed at 63.3 per cent, 39.8 per cent and [illegible] per cent respectively. The high number of non-Ivorian Africans points to one of the marked features of the country—the large number *of people who have flocked* in from neighbouring countries in search of work. There are probably more than a million people in the Upper Volta alone like immigrants elsewhere many of them do the jobs the locals will not touch.

Worry about educated unemployed

The Government is [illegible] pressing industrial [illegible] hard, however, [illegible] "Ivorianize" their management and the [illegible] leaders are worried [illegible] the possible creation in the future of a pool of educated unemployed.

Ivorianization is [illegible] keynote of the industrial part of the recently approved 1976-80 five-year plan. Projects to be started or launched in the period include: the start of exploitation of the [illegible] Klahoyo iron ore deposits (eight million tonnes of [illegible] lets forecast for 1981); the launching of paper [illegible] production in 1981-82; [illegible] production, sugar production with the establishment of 12 units in the Korhogo-Ferkessédougou [illegible] (150,000 tonnes in 1980, 600,000 by 1985); increased cocoa processing capacity; further textile expansion including synthetics; the creation of an integrated leather industry; the development of wood industries, both in initial processing and the production of panels; increased capacity for refining and processing edible oils; the start-up of the power stations Vridi III and IV and of hydroelectric dams at Taabo (1979), [illegible] (1980) and Soubré (1983).

The Vridi oil refinery, which supplies the country with motor fuel, will double its capacity *in the period* of the plan and a bitumen factory will be added to it. The fertilizer industry will be further developed and a pharmaceuticals industry launched. Employment in the chemical industry will rise from 4,000 to 7,000, and the number of new jobs to be created in the industrial, building and public works sectors in the plan period will be 43,000. By 1980 the number employed in industry should be 83,000—50 *per cent up on the 1975 figure.*



Timber stored for export at Abidjan. The home processing industry is growing.

World sales success

Third among the world coffee producers (after Brazil and Colombia) the Ivory Coast is the world's largest producer of Robusta coffee. Less aromatic than its more aristocratic cousin Arabica, Robusta is used principally for blending.

In the past two years three of the Ivory Coast's *chief competitors on the* world coffee market have had their troubles. Brazil has had frost, Angola and Uganda have had political difficulties of production and transport. Their misfortunes have brought the Ivory Coast success on the world market and the Ivory Coast expects this situation (and its competitors' problems) to continue for the next two years.

Major developments in coffee include modernization programmes under way since 1968, which are replacing progressively (at a rate of about 21,000 hectares a year) the traditional coffee plantations with selected varieties. Most plantations, as in the case of cocoa, are family *smallholdings, most of them* between one and two hectares. Some 280,000 plantations cover 700,000 hectares and involve almost one in three of the population (about 2,350,000).

As in the case of cocoa, efforts are being made to improve the yield, at present about 400 kilogrammes a hectare. To overcome the labour shortage, experiments are being carried out with mechanical coffee shakers.

There is a continuing programme of planting 2,000 hectares a year of Arabusta, the hybrid form of Robusta and Arabica, and if it is as successful as it seems, this may be stepped up to 4,000 to 5,000 hectares a year.

This hybrid is particularly valuable for the climatic conditions of the Ivory Coast which, while suitable for Robusta coffee, is not suit*able for Arabica which needs* altitude and a cooler climate. It is believed that recent expansion of Nestlé coffee processing plants in the Ivory Coast is linked with the appearance of this new coffee product.

An indication of the rapid development made in coffee can be seen from the growth of production from 85,000 tons in 1960 to about 270,000 in 1975. By 1980, according to revised targets in the five-year plan, this should *reach 330,000 tons.*

There still remains some doubt about this target, however, as some coffee experts remain unconvinced that the soil prepared for the new plantations in the south-west is suitable. If yields do not come up to expectations, *coffee growers will undoubt*edly switch rapidly to alternatives despite the present reasonably high price the Government pays to producers—175 CFA francs the kilo.

Another difficulty is the *organization of the coffee* farmers themselves. One method that is spreading rapidly among coffee growers (and cocoa farmers) is that of the cooperative group, made up of a minimum of seven farmers but more usually of about a dozen who farm on 20 to 30 hectares and who are being organized by technical experts.

This is a programme that has been particularly applied in newly-developing coffee *and cocoa regions.* At the moment, there is no doubt that these programmes are developing fairly well. But they are still in their preliminary stages and it is not clear how exporters will react to what will inevitably mean increased organization among the growers.

As in every case in the Ivory Coast the difficulties of actual organization and public services can be expected to take time to be resolved, especially since government plans for increased mechanization of harvesting and preparation to offset labour shortages are now going ahead. They will contribute to the inevitable difficulties of pushing ahead with increased production targets.

Limits on timber

There is growing concern about the disappearance of *natural forest in the Ivory* Coast. In 1956, 11,800,000 hectares of a total area of 15,560,000 was covered in forest; according to the Ministry of Waterways and Forests, this had dropped to 4,400,000 by last year and forest was disappearing at the rate of 500,000 hectares a year.

The main reason for the speedy deafforestation is no longer timber felling (conservation attempts are being made) but the practice among villagers of burning *areas of forest to grow crops* such as cassava. Not only is this destructive but as no fertilizers are used the soil often becomes exhausted in two or three years, and the villagers go on to burn new areas.

Another difficulty reafforestation experts have come up against is that tropical trees such as mahogany will grow only where they have shade; altering the ecological balance frequently makes it impossible for trees to grow.

The Government is well aware of the problem and is attempting to limit exports. In theory the limit is four million cubic metres of wood, but last year about five million cubic metres were exported (compared with fewer than four million in 1973-74).

By limiting exports, experts hope to stabilize the forests and enable plantations to be built up preventing a hiatus between reduced forest exploitation and the appearance of new plantations.

Other efforts at conservation involve attempts to export wider variety of woods (there are 596 species of tree in the Ivory Coast, often as many as 50 to the hectare, but few are exploited).

The aim of the Ivory Coast is to keep 2,800,000 hectares covered in forest. At present rates of exploitation there would be 2,400,000 hectares left by 1980 so further reductions in felling must be made.

In initial experiments in replanting selected trees which take about 50 years to mature were used. These have been replaced with varieties taking about 30 years. But *many agriculturists* argue that it does not make economic sense for the Ivory Coast to replant when trees such as rubber, oil palm or coconut can be grown successfully — and have a life cycle of four to six years.

Varieties of wood such as pine and eucalyptus are also being grown in nurseries for the proposed pulp factory at San Pedro.

Timber processing is a growing industry, which has been strengthened by a government decree obliging timber exploiters to give a proportion of their wood to factories.

The proportion of wood processed in 1975 was 39 per cent of a total production figure of 3,969,000 cu metres. This compares with production figures for 1973 and 1974, of 5,194,000 in metres and 4,669,000 in metres respectivey.

Plywood, particle board, veneers and furniture are made in the Ivory Coast. There is, for example, a Danish Ivory Coast enterprise producing Scandinavian-type furniture.

Investment in the wood industry is about 37,500m CFA francs, including forest research. There are about 2,600 people employed in the industry.

Major projects include two processing complexes in the west, each involving an investment of about 4,000m CFA francs: modernization and expansion of sawmills; and installation of carpentry *workshops at Abidjan* and San Pedro.

In terms of size and investment the most important project is a proposed pulp factory in San Pedro. It is expected to start exporting 300,000 tons of pulp a year from 1982.

Farms modernize

Cocoa, coffee and timber account for about three quarters of Ivory Coast's exports. Cocoa and coffee, which account for about half, have done very well in the past few years as a result of high world prices and, particularly in the case of cocoa, a big increase in production. Ivory Coast is the world's second largest cocoa producer.

Cocoa plantations have long been the province of the small peasant landowner. Instead of the large, modern and capital-intensive plantations characteristic of sugar and rubber, most cocoa holdings are small—frequently between one and two hectares. Most cocoa growers also cultivate coffee and vice versa.

Efforts are being made to modernize production, with the aim of improving yield an acre by the introduction of more scientific farming methods and higher yielding trees.

Much recently research has gone into high yielding cocoa hybrids. This, together with the young average age of trees (about eight cocoa trees continue to crop until age 30) and extended hectarage, has brought annual production increases of between 8 and 9 per cent in the past few years. The crop is expected to reach 335,000 tons by 1980.

The Ivory Coast hopes to overtake Ghana, the leading cocoa producer, by the mid-1980s. Ghana's production this year is expected to be about 330,000 tons, only about 30,000 tons ahead of the Ivory Coast's.

There are about 200,000 plantations, representing more than 900,000 hectares of cocoa trees. More than 650,000 workers are involved in cocoa production and ancillary industries.

The main problem faced by the Ivory Coast in attempts to raise cocoa yield is an acute labour shortage. Efforts are being made both to encourage labour to stay on the land (by offering incentives such as higher *wages and better conditions*) and to compensate for lack of manpower through increased mechanization.

So far, fermentation has been done by farmers, but now the Government plans to introduce large-scale fermentation plants capable of fermenting between 500 and 1,000 tons of cocoa.

This development is intended not only to rationalize fermentation but also to act as an effective quality control. Agronomists are concerned that quality has not always been very good.

"Ghanaian cocoa is far superior to ours", one expert said. "If there was not such a high demand for cocoa we might find it difficult to sell all our cocoa."

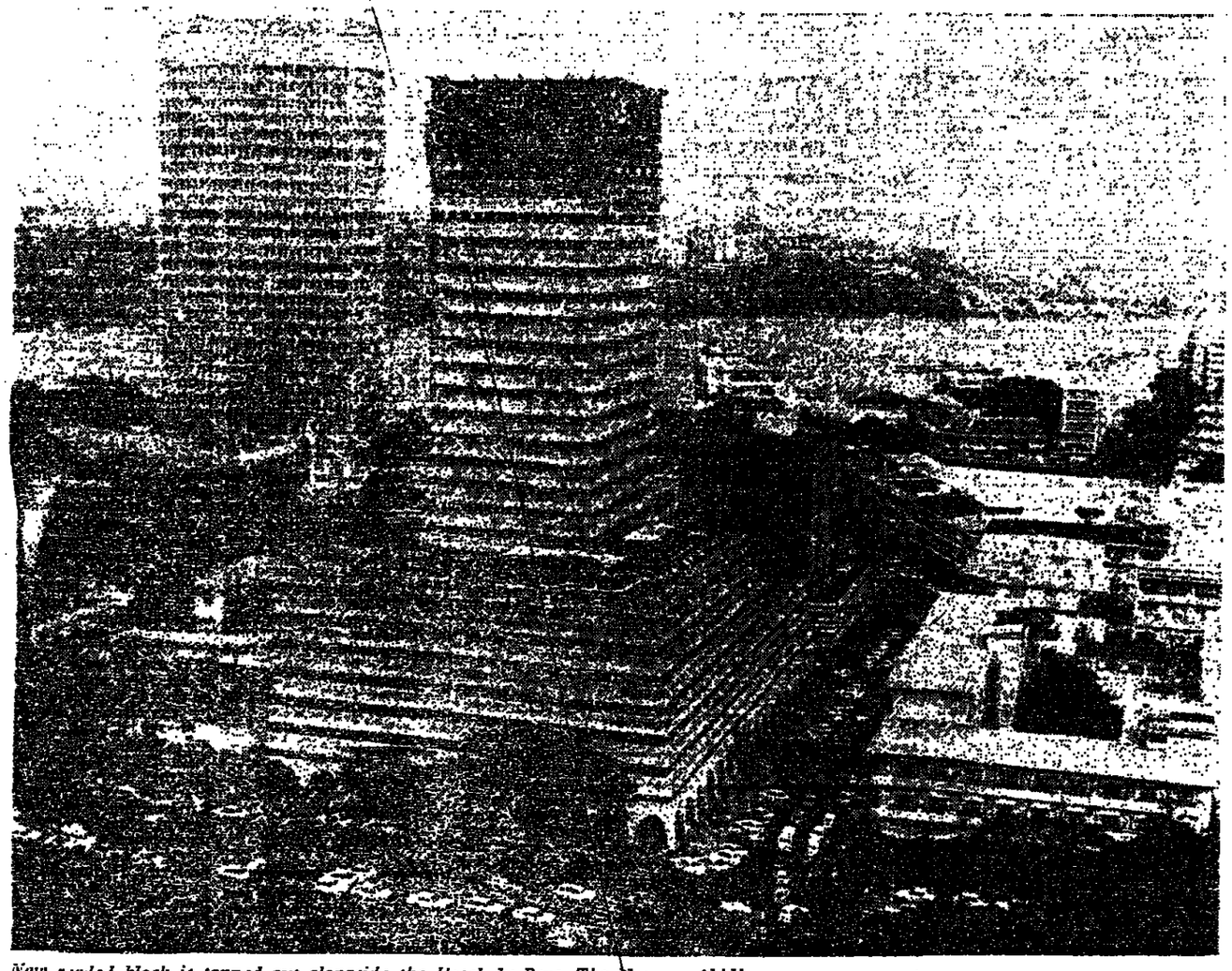
The most common complaint is of excessive humidity. Despite stringent regulations, the trouble under the old system has been that cocoa growers who sold by weight found it advantageous not to dry out their cocoa too much. Companies in Abidjan which lent money to farmers were in effect bound to take the cocoa, even when it was not up to standard. The new system should overcome this difficulty.

The price of cocoa, fixed to protect growers, has been raised to 180 CFA francs a kilo.

Last year the Ivory Coast, alone among producing countries, refused to sign the new cocoa agreement on the ground that the price of 39 to 55 cents a lb was too low, *particularly in view of* the very high world price.

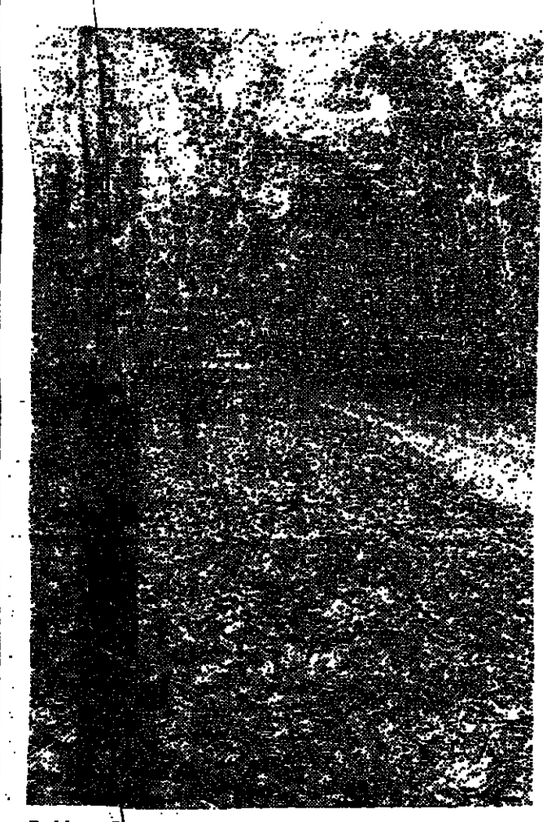
A considerable increase in cocoa processing is planned, including butter, powder and chocolate products. Two cocoa processing factories are to be brought into service and by the end of *1980 local industry* should be processing 90,000 tons.

There are also plans to stockpile cocoa in specially constructed warehouses in order to obtain the best prices. At present the crop is sold over about three months.

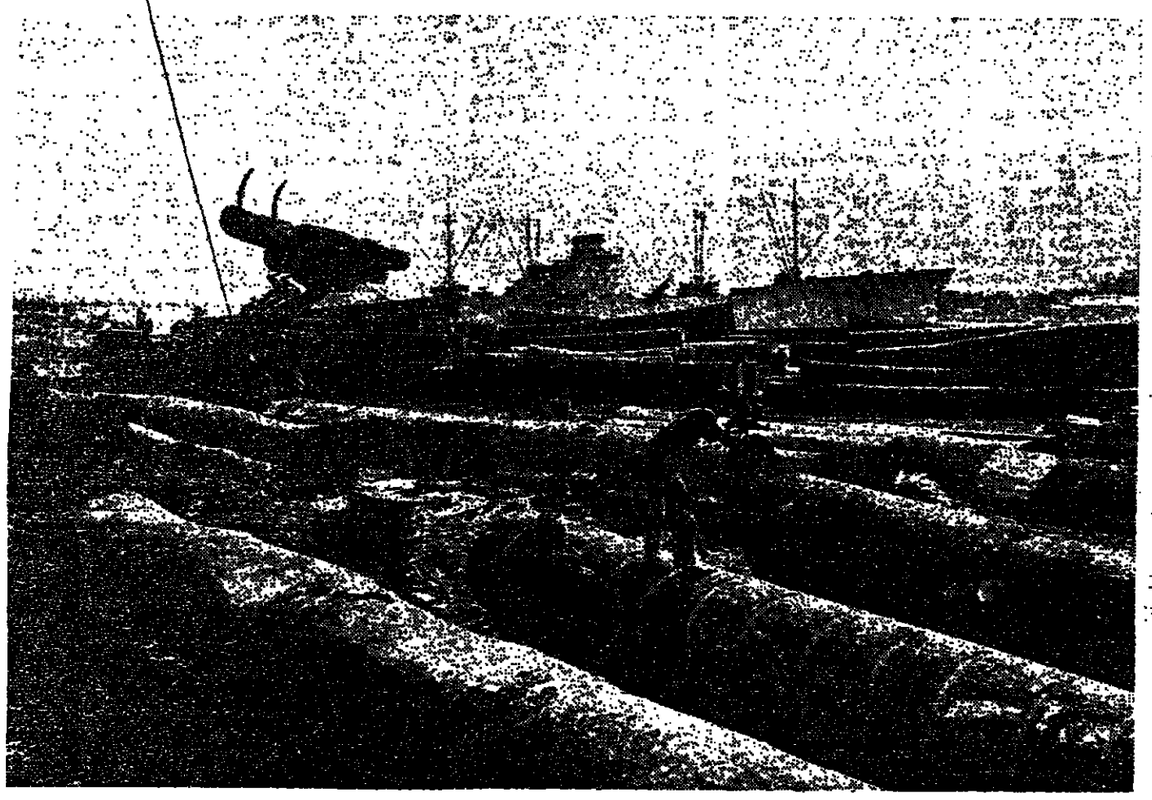


New scaled block is topped out alongside the Hotel du Parc, The Plateau, Abidjan

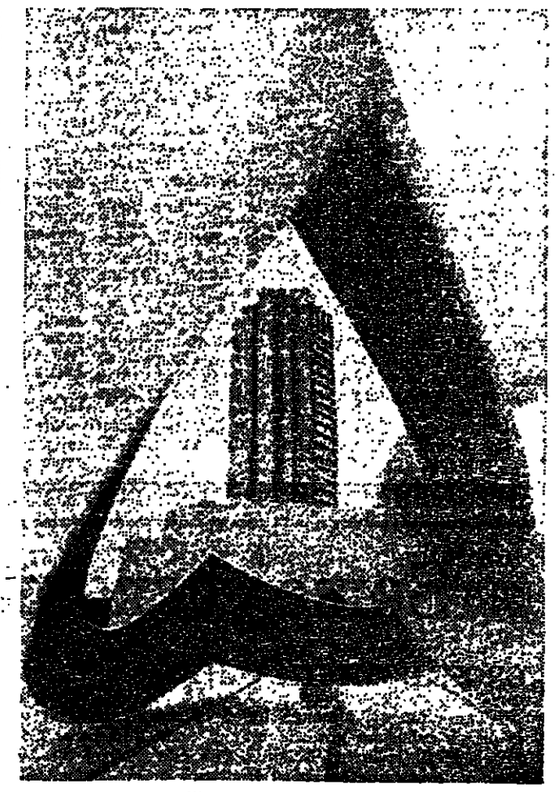
Ivorians enjoy and adapt easily to industrial life



Rubber—Ivory Coast is now sixth in world



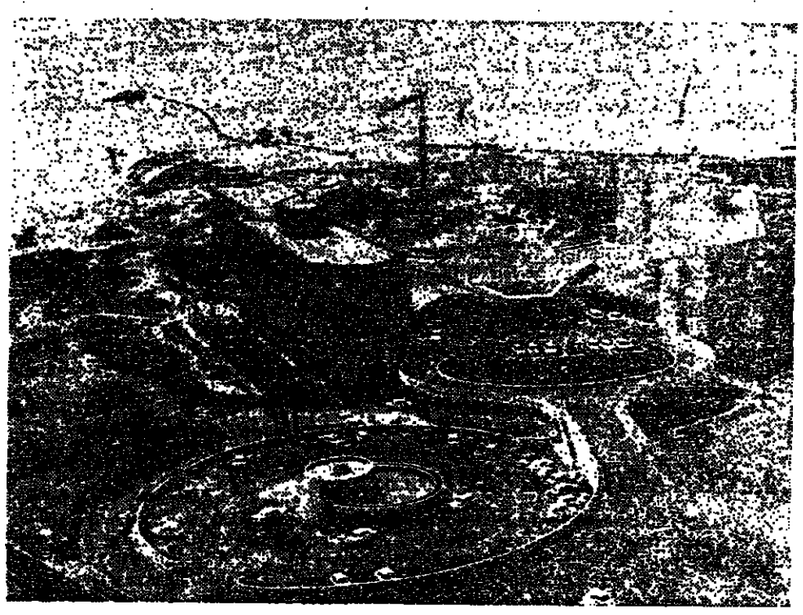
The "Hardwoods" port, Abidjan



The tower block—Hotel Ivoire

Swimming pool, Abidja—tropical ambience

Village—Club d'Assinie



The Hotel Forum Golf has now opened on the Abidjan riviera

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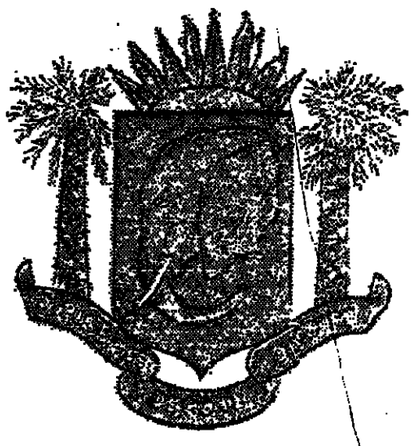

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Port is key to development

by Susan Morgan

In a country full of ambitious (and successful) projects, the San Pedro scheme is perhaps the most ambitious. It involves not only developing a port (now in phase two) on an impressive scale, but also using the port as the key to the development of the south-west.

This is a priority of Ivorian development. The intention is both to iron out regional disparities and to achieve the full potential of the hinterland behind the port where a large number of agricultural schemes are under way and undergoing expansion.

Agricultural produce for export from this region will all pass through San Pedro and much of it will be processed in factories in and around San Pedro before exportation.

Already the port of Abidjan and Abidjan itself are both approaching saturation point. A seemingly interminable and unending traffic jam on the road north recently convinced me of this. Much of the traffic consisted of lorries carrying huge logs which will in future be diverted to San Pedro. This represents a great saving in distance hauled as most of the forest (60 per cent) lies in that region.

Plans for a new port (the Ivory Coast's second lung, as an Ivorian graphically put it) have been going on since 1959. San Pedro was chosen first because it was the best natural harbour. It was also sited in the heart of the south-west, an added bonus for development plans.

Although San Pedro was a small fishing village originally, it has now been developed into a sizable town and it is still growing. Covering a site of some 70 acres, it now comprises a commercial and residential zone. There are about 35,000 inhabitants. 3,500 concerned directly with the port. By 1990 a projected 100,000 people will live there and the final figure is for 400,000, which gives some idea of the scales of operations. Low-cost housing is to be provided for residents.

The port was opened in 1971. At the mouth of the San Pedro river its natural rocky promontory was extended by a breakwater of 240 metres. Initially two docks with depths of nine and 11 metres respectively were constructed as well as two log basins, two warehouses and facilities for service craft.

The initial cost of the project was 6,000m CFA francs. The present phase two involves the building of two more docks at a cost of a further 5,500m CFA francs. The third phase will involve building 10 new docks at a cost of about 20,000m CFA francs.

In order to make San Pedro commercially viable, a road network has been established, though work is still going on. In 10 to 15 years there will be 400 miles of tarred roads and 430 miles of high quality earth roads. As well as the road network linking San Pedro with the interior to help to transport goods, a projected coast road will link San Pedro with the capital Abidjan while routes to Liberia and other places are also envisaged.

The development of the interior south-west is based almost entirely on forest exploitation, though soon the extension of other agricultural projects will bring diversification from this monoculture. particularly since other crops have much shorter growing cycles than trees. Between 1968 and 1973 basic service developments permitted the opening of five new processing plants (wood sawmills) as well as veneer and plywood plants with a total capacity of 200,000 cubic metres a year.

Major processing plants at San Pedro are, as would be expected, mostly based on local resources. There are plants for latex coagulation, palm oil and essential oils, a projected rice mill, cocoa and coffee packing stations, and plants for processing other foodstuffs.

There are sawmills in Buyo, Béréby, Gueyo, Sassandra, Zagne, Tabou and San Pedro and timber is produced both for export and the domestic market. The combined capacity of these mills is more than 350,000 cu metres a year. In 1975 300,000 cu metres were exported. Increasingly timber will be processed and more of it will be exported.

The interior is being developed into an important agricultural zone. New high yield varieties of crops and more intensive cultivation are expected to show dramatic results in exports. Crop estimates by 1980 (in terms of acres planted) are: coffee, 128,000 acres; cocoa, 116,000; coconut palm, 36,000; oil palm, 86,000; citrus fruits 6,600. While cocoa and coffee are tried and tested export leaders, products such as citrus fruits are more recent introductions.

The south-west is considered to have considerable tourist potential as there are a number of beautiful beaches in the region and interesting villages inland. There are more than 150 miles of coastline between Fresco and Tabou with sandy beaches. Other attractions include fishing, watersports and animal life (both in the forest and the national park of Tai).

An international airport is expected to open in the next few years and a total of 1,500 hotel rooms will be available. It is expected that 55,000 tourists will visit the region each year.

Far and away the most ambitious projects in San Pedro are iron ore (and related steel) and pulp. The pulp project involves investment totalling 40,000m CFA francs. The exploiting company is being formed this year and exports of wood pulp (an initial 300,000 tons a year) are expected to start in 1982.

Already 550,000 acres of forest have been set aside for the proposed mill. Initially it will use hard wood growing naturally, but later there are plans to plant nurseries of eucalyptus and pine.

The other important project — the iron ore plant — is even more ambitious. It involves an investment of more than 100,000m CFA francs (by far the most expensive project in the country), including a 22 per cent stake by British Steel. However, because of setbacks in overall financing, this project will be delayed until the mid-1980s.

In terms of the tonnage exported, San Pedro is ahead of schedule, testifying to the need for a second port. It handles well over a million tons of goods a year (almost entirely for export) and that figure is expected to double by 1980 and reach 2,750,000 tons by 1985. Until 1980, unprocessed timber will account for the vast bulk of exports, but then diversification will reduce its percentage considerably. The projected exports in 1985 are: raw timber, 225,000 tons; processed timber, 215,000 tons; clinker, 275,000 tons; binding material, 45,000 tons; coffee and cocoa, 330,000 tons; pulp, 300,000 tons; palm oil and kernels, 125,000 tons; latex, 100,000 tons.

Political stability attracts foreign capital

In terms of economic growth the Ivory Coast, a developing country, has been the envy of many industrialized nations. With an average growth rate of 8 per cent since independence, inflation caused by oil prices and the recession of the past few years, there was still a growth rate of 6 per cent from 1971 to 1975.

Perhaps the overiding attraction of the country for foreign capital, even more than its economic performance, has been its political stability—and the indications that it will survive President Houphouët-Boigny.

Stability and concentration on economic growth have been almost entirely caused by the pragmatic policies of the man who has been the country's President since independence.

The backbone of the economy is still agriculture and it is these that most investment is concentrated. Diversification particularly into processing agricultural products, is increasing, however, though industrial development has been slower than Ivorians would have wished. Industry accounts for about 11 per cent of the gross domestic product and agriculture about 31 per cent.

Economic growth will continue to depend heavily on foreign investment and loans (the proportion of Ivorian investment is growing, buttressed by export earnings and boosted by very high world prices for export crops and supplemented by heavy borrowing, much of it latterly on the Eurodollar market).

The ambitious five-year plan of 1975-80 calls for a total fixed gross investment of 1,400,000m CFA francs—an increase as a proportion of gross domestic product of about 25 per cent as compared with about 21 per cent for the 1971-75 period. Domestic resources are expected to cover the vast bulk of the total—70 per cent—and the remaining 30 per cent will be supplied by foreign investment.

Foreign borrowing has been increasing rapidly. In 1976, Ivorians borrowed 125,000m CFA francs—almost double that of a year earlier—and clearly borrowing must continue at a high rate throughout the five-year period if the plan's targets are to be met.

Observers believe that debt servicing, despite the huge sums involved, will not prove a problem and will be contained at between 10 and 15 per cent (according to Ivorian figures it will not rise above 13 per cent). However, observers are asking whether the Ivory Coast can continue to borrow such large sums at reasonable terms on the international capital market.

Sources of foreign investment have diversified considerably since independence—though now, as then, the French have the greatest share. By June 1, 1976, French capital accounted for 41 per cent of the total (a drop of 5 per cent from the previous year). Ivorian capital had risen to 37 per cent compared with 34 per cent in 1975, and non-French foreign capital to 22 per cent (an increase of 3 per cent on the previous year).

Fewer French investors on the scene

The non-French group was headed by the United States, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, West Germany, Luxembourg and Italy. While Ivorian capital is increasing at a regular rate, that of France is falling. This is partly because French industrialists based in the Ivory Coast regularly reinvest in their enterprises while fewer new French investors appear on the scene.

American investments, now accounting for about 4 per cent of the total, have made progress recently and are expected to increase considerably. Swiss investment is concentrated mainly in food processing, and the Benelux countries have some interests in beer and timber. British investment is very small (0.37 of the total), and in diverse areas such as perfumes, pesticides, plastics, refineries, and motor lubricants. Possible long-term British investment areas are seen as chemical and rubber industries, timber, textiles and food and drink.

Constraints on British investors include the low parity of the pound against the franc. The large scale of investment needed as complexes such as cotton become increasingly economies of scale and the fact that many areas of potential investment have already been filled — mainly by the French.

So far the Ivorians have proved very successful at luring ever larger sums of foreign capital. It appears that this will continue to be the case, but the investors would be advised to note certain changes in orientation in Ivorian policies.

Chief among these are the moves to replace expatriate management with Ivorians and for Ivorian capital to play an increasing role. In general terms the state continues to seek foreign investment to partner it in public programmes. It is usually only when this is not forthcoming and that an area is deemed a priority by the Ivorian authorities that the capital is almost all Ivorian.

Clearly, the public sector in the Ivory Coast will continue to rely on the participation of foreign capital, to finance its developments. For the moment it should have few problems finding this — the country offers one of the most liberal investment programmes in the world, allowing substantial remittance of foreign capital and tax-free "holidays".

The growing tendency for managerial posts to be given to Ivorians is something which not all foreign investors view with undiluted enthusiasm. While Ivorian labour is being trained to fill jobs requiring an increasing degree of technical skill, it is proving difficult to train labour fast enough to fill the main vacancies.

Furthermore while many companies have training schemes to fill these vacancies they are finding it more difficult to place Ivorians as accountants and managers. Already there have been some mistakes because of over-hasty application of the policy.

However, the policy is irreversible, and many companies are taking the view that their best course is to train Ivorians as well and as extensively as possible.

S.M.

Icy reception for the masses

The most incongruous element of Ivory Coast tourism must be that the largest hotel in one of Africa's steamiest capitals boasts an ice rink. Perhaps this sums up what is at fault with the Ivorian tourist industry—its emphasis on catering for the wealthy European *doré* rather than plumping for mass tourism which is essentially what the Ivory Coast needs.

There are almost no package tours available to the Ivory Coast. Ivorians have assumed that Europeans, who make up the bulk of tourists, will be prepared to pay full and expensive fares to the Ivory Coast, and pay to travel round the interior on top of this. This basic miscalculation is particularly serious now given the unfavourable climate of the tourist industry as a whole and the availability of cheaper alternatives. This approach has also lost the Ivory Coast valuable time as both neighbouring Togo and Senegal have successfully cashed in on package tours.

This is a pity as the Ivory Coast does possess the basic tourist and hotel service (122 hotels and 4,146 rooms as of February 1976). This is impressive for a developing West African country. Nor are all these hotels concentrated in the capital. Sietho, the government hotel chain, has a pioneering policy of opening hotels in the interior, using each year's anniversary of independence to build a new one in which to hold celebrations.

All offer swimming pools and air conditioning, many have further facilities such as tennis courts and all boast excellent French cuisine. Unfortunately, because many of them are isolated and the road and air network has lagged behind them, many are fairly empty for much of the time. A further drawback, at least as far as mass tourism is concerned, is that on the whole they can accommodate only up to 30 couples.

On the credit side there are a number of projects afoot which should help to realize some of the considerable tourist potential of the Ivory Coast. There is a photographic game safari park in the east at Camoe (hunting is forbidden in the Ivory Coast) and another at Bouna in the north which has the added advantages of a sunny climate and a wealth of African antiquities—and traditional architecture and artefacts.

The south-west is another region slated for tourist development. It is an area of great natural beauty with hundreds of miles of white sheltered bays. The sea is both cleaner and less dangerous than around Abidjan. Various projects are at different stages of development though none is yet completed. These include two 400-bed hotels at San Pedro, where an airport is to be built, and several tourist villages.

While the Ivory Coast cannot boast the kind of big-game safaris of East Africa, game parks are being built up. There is a great deal of remarkably interesting African village life in the interior, particularly around Man where there are mountains, fascinating scenery, and flora and fauna, as well as a much better climate than in the rather humid capital. Les Cascades at Man is a beautiful mountainous region with wooded and well watered hills where walking is a delight.

Again there are a variety and richness of traditional crafts. Pottery, weaving, carving and copperwork have survived the passage of time almost unchanged. So too have dances, some with masks and all with special costumes, which while known to the French are almost unknown to the British.

The provision of attractions of perhaps more enduring interest than mere sunny beaches (though there are those too) should do much to encourage tourist developments, particularly as transport and hotels are improved and extended to make visits enjoyable rather than endurable.

Most tourists are European—and, as one might expect, most are French (43 per cent). Way down the percentage scale comes the next largest group, Americans, who account for 7.2 per cent of tourists, while the British represent only a tiny 2.3 per cent of the total.

The reasons for so low a percentage of non-French are the lack of direct flights and language and traditional ties with East Africa. A small but steadily growing number of Liberians find visits to Abidjan of interest. Not only tourism, but most hotel development and investment is also European, though it is not as great as the Ivorians might wish.

Abidjan, an important business and commercial centre for West Africa, is rapidly becoming an important conference centre, particularly since the Hotel Ivoire boasts a 2,000 capacity conference hall. African conferences dominate.

In addition to the Hotel Ivoire, whose reputation overshadows its performance, there are many tourist facilities in Abidjan, which is an attractive if very un-African city of tall buildings and landscaped lagoons.

Development around the lagoons is being undertaken by both state and private capital, the latter including the United States Intercontinental chain. Tourist villages are also being developed.

The five-year plan hopes for 300,000 tourists by 1980, but such a figure would require heavy investment to bring tourism into line with other Ivory Coast developments.

Given time, however, and developments such as new airports and a change of attitude, the future is quite promising—if a little more distant than Ivorians might care to think.

S.M.

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THE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB

There is a central paradox in British politics. The idea of democratic socialism is widely regarded as a failure. The public ownership of industry has resulted in inconsistent policies, misdirected investment, poor management, low productivity and a loss of international competitiveness. The planning of the economy has failed to prevent high inflation, high unemployment, low investment, low productivity and low competitiveness. The National Health Service is still much admired, but even it has serious human and financial problems. The most characteristic socialist reform in education, the introduction of comprehensive schools, is generally believed to have led to a serious lowering of standards and to have done grave damage to the prospects of hundreds of thousands of children. A Labour Chancellor has spent most of the past year cutting government expenditure and is now promising to cut direct taxation, although high government expenditure and high direct taxation have been a central part of traditional Labour doctrine. The trade unions are generally regarded as overpowerful, and are blamed for having contributed both to the problems of inflation and of low productivity.

Natural party

If one can ever say of a political system of ideas that it has lost the confidence of a nation one can say it of the system of ideas of the Labour Party. That is not true only of the ideas of the militants or of the left but of those of the moderates themselves. The wisest and best people in the Labour Party have played a particularly conspicuous part in enforcing comprehensive education and most of them have voted for every proposal for public ownership put forward by their party. Abroad there is a general view that Britain's performance as a nation in the last fifteen years has been disastrous; it is generally considered that these particular attributes of socialist policy have played a large part in causing Britain's decline.

Yet at the same time the Labour Party is seen, both here and abroad, as having become the natural party of government for Britain. There was hardly a person to be found in Washington last week who hoped that there would be an early general election in Britain or wanted to lose that reliable partner, Mr Callaghan, if an election were in fact called. This was particularly marked because Mr Callaghan had recently left a very favourable impression in Washington. But it is also because Americans tend to believe that only a Labour government can govern Britain effectively.

In Britain even the Stock Exchange fell on the fear of a general election and recovered when it became apparent that the Labour Government were going to remain in office. This feeling too must have influenced the Liberal Party in their decision; they behaved as though the Labour Government were in some sense the natural government of Britain.

This is partly a reaction to the strength of the trade unions and to the belief that the trade unions will only cooperate with a Labour government. It is certainly true that the trade unions would not give a phase three of the incomes policy to a Conservative government, though it is doubtful whether they will give any more than a paper policy to a Labour government either. It is also doubtful whether phase three—with loose wage control and tight price control—will not do more harm than good.

The higher credibility of the Labour Government is also partly due to the fact that Labour has been the predominant party since 1964. In the late years of Mr Macmillan the Conservative Party seemed the natural government of the country, if only because they had been there so long. But the contrast now presents a very difficult challenge to the Conservatives. They do not necessarily have to convince people that their ideas are sound. Few people in Britain have done so well out of the period of socialist rule as to have been converted to socialism by the experience of its operation. Conservatives have to convince the nation that their ideas are practical and that they have, or as a government would have, the authority to carry them out.

This has been made more difficult by the events of this week. The Labour Party have gained in authority because when it came to the point they were able to maintain themselves in government. They will at least be able to govern until the autumn, though one must have considerable reservations about the possibility of their compact with the Liberal Party lasting beyond that point. These reservations are increased by the spectacle of Mr Callaghan and Mr Steel pretending to their parties that the agreement is less important than it is. The Liberals, have, however, gained in credibility by showing, for the first time since 1945, that they can actually exert an influence on government. The Liberal appeal to dissident Conservative voters may be damaged by the sight of the Liberal Party committing itself to the support of a Labour government.

The Conservatives have been made to look like outsiders; like people who do not bear the natural stamp of government and do not share membership of the club of authority of which the trade unions, the senior civil servants, and the Labour Government are full members, the Liberals are temporary junior probationary members, and to which the CBI are invited as occasional guests to lunch.

Similar problem

The situation for the Conservatives is not quite as desperate as it is for the Republicans in the United States, whose support is a small minority and whose leadership has virtually disappeared. The positions of the Democrats and the Labour Party, of course, are quite different. Yet the Conservatives and the Republicans face essentially the same problem. How is one to make the system of a free society credible to people who have become increasingly accustomed—more here than there—to living in a bureaucratic society? How is one to make sound economics policy be sound politics? Do cage birds want to fly free? There are some, a minority, who have despaired and believe that the Conservative Party only has a future if it accepts the socialist state. There is another minority which has despaired in the opposite way, and believes that purity of doctrine is the only thing that counts even if the refusal to accept political reality means perpetual exclusion from power.

Between now and next autumn, which is still the most likely date for the next election, the Conservative Party has to find some solution to these problems of policy and above all to the problem of authority. They will be facing the fact that the strong Liberal trend in British politics, which has never been wholly submerged, has shown that when it has to make a choice it now chooses socialism. That is a psychological disadvantage to the Conservatives. Unless they can establish their authority in the public mind, always a difficult thing for an opposition to do, they will not necessarily win an autumn election, or an election at any later time. The public is quite capable of coming to the conclusion that British socialism is such a mess that only socialists are capable of running it.

A FAIR AUDIT BUT A WEAK BLUEPRINT

The Annan report is the latest in a long and honourable line of public inquiries into the condition and future of British broadcasting. By their very nature such surveys tend to be detailed because they perform the function both of a public audit—whose value can be measured in part by the anxiety aroused in the broadcasting organizations—and of a blueprint. But from this voluminous report there are three questions of particular consequence that stand out: should the BBC be split up? Should a fourth television channel go to a new Open Broadcasting Authority, to be run on the lines of a publishing company of the air taking contributions from whatever source they are offered? And should both BBC and commercial local radio be hived off to a new Local Broadcasting Authority?

If one was starting from scratch to devise the ideal pattern of broadcasting in Britain one would not have such a mammoth organization as the BBC. Its very size is an encouragement to bureaucracy, and it is undesirable in principle that so large a proportion of British television and radio broadcasting should come under the control of one body. But one is not starting from scratch; so one has to balance the dislocation, probably lasting several years, that would be bound to come from splitting up the BBC as a strong minority of the committee propose — against whatever practical advantages might be derived.

Those practical advantages would be unlikely to be as great as the proponents of this scheme suppose. There is too much bureaucracy in the BBC, but splitting it up is not necessarily the best way of curing that: the new boards would take the place of one, and one suspects that that might set the pattern down the line. Nor whatever might be argued in theory, has excessive cooperation between its constituent parts been one of the characteristics of the BBC in practice. Moreover, to dismember the BBC in this way now would in all probability be interpreted as a punitive act and would weaken its standing in the outside world and its capacity to resist the pressure of politicians at home. The uncertain benefits are not worth the risks.

The report's proposals for the fourth television channel are in principle attractive, but again it is necessary to question how they would work in practice. The idea of a channel taking programmes from all comers—including the existing commercial and the BBC as well as smaller freelance programme-makers—in addition to providing a home for educational broadcasting, is imaginative and constructive. But with all broadcasting so much depends on how it is financed. The report proposes that this channel should be financed in a number of ways: by grants from educational authorities to cover the cost of those programmes; by subscriptions from members of the public, along the lines of contributions to the Public Broadcasting Service stations in the United States; by sponsorship; and by direct advertising, including block advertising as it is known, with advertisements being shown in groups over a longer period of time than is now the practice on British television.

The committee wisely recommends that this scheme should not come into operation under present economic conditions, but there would have to be more than an upturn in the economy to assure that the service was not financed overwhelmingly by advertising in one form or another. If it was financed in that way there would inevitably be the pressure to build up audiences of a certain size. Advertisers would want their money's worth, and the experience of commercial broadcasting the world over suggests that that means going for large audiences. In the circumstances of British broadcasting that would mean intensified competition for viewers, with damaging effects on quality, although that is precisely what the committee do not intend.

Finance is also the complicating factor with local radio. There is no particular reason why the BBC should run local radio stations, and it could certainly be divested of them without suffering a damaging loss of prestige or morale. But what would happen to these stations? The Local Broadcasting Authority would supervise the system, but not run the stations. The report would like this task to be undertaken so far as possible by such non profit-making bodies as universities or polytechnics, or by non profit-distributing trusts. But, as the report acknowledges, universities and polytechnics do not have money to spare these days, and as a general rule it is risk capital that has to be drawn into risk ventures. Local radio is certainly a risk venture in Britain at the moment: the report even describes it as a mess. The probable effect of this proposal would be to transfer most of the BBC's local radio stations to the commercial sector, which might well not have the resources to cope.

In general, this is a report that has some pertinent comments to make on the state of British broadcasting today. But it is doubtful if the main proposals for change that appear in its pages will set the pattern for tomorrow.

John Evelyn's library

From Dr Michael Hunter

Sir, The outcry in your columns over the Evelyn sale has been timely and crucial, but I think that two points have been made in sufficiently clear.

(1) That the books involved comprise only part of Evelyn's library, much of which is already widely scattered in public and private collections. The process of dispersal was begun by Evelyn himself and continued by his descendants, due partly to lack of shelf space and partly to neglect. This, however, is no excuse for allowing such of this highly important collection as

(2) That a sizable proportion of the collection that is now to be sold never formed part of Evelyn's own library. Among the volumes that have been sent to Christies are numerous additions made by his family since his time. Some of these are items like copies of his works that he gave to friends (which are therefore of considerable interest to students of Evelyn, but can by no stretch of the imagination be considered integral to his library), while others have no connexion with Evelyn at all.

The implication of these facts, it seems to me, is that a potential rescuer need not bid uncritically for all the books. It is not really the future of the library as an entity".

Instead, a cheaper expedient can be employed. Would it not be feasible to sort the later accretions from the remnant of the original library, allowing the former to be dispersed piecemeal, and only trying to keep the latter together? For it is this residue of Evelyn's own books, rather than the whole collection, that is of the incalculable value that you and your correspondents have rightly stressed.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HUNTER,
Birkbeck College, University of London,
Malet Street, WC1

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Direct elections to EEC Parliament

From Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, MP for Kettering (Labour)

Sir, Your leading article today (March 24) welcomes the coming Bill for direct elections to the European Parliament and refers to the Prime Minister's clear indication that such a Bill would provide for proportional representation.

One of the problems facing such a Bill on a free vote is that many MPs on both sides of the House believe that the only truly democratic method of election is the single member first-past-the-post system with its identification of the MP (or MEP) with his constituents. However, it became clear that there was no possibility of such a system being ready by June 1978 when the Liberals announced that they would oppose every one of the Boundary Commission's 81 recommendations.

Fortunately we have time to set up a list system and to have 81 MEPs elected by PR. We need not fear that this would lead to PR being used in Westminster elections. At a British general election we choose a government. Indeed the first task of our MPs is to act as an electoral college. In an election for the European Parliament we would not choose a government. We would choose men and women to reflect the views of our citizens who wish to stimulate and criticize the institutions of the Community. For this purpose the list system is ideal and since it is likely to be the system adopted by the European Parliament for future elections there is something to be said for getting used to it.

Like many MPs I am worried about the power a list system gives to the central machine of our parties. But political parties are not irresponsible. The 18 British Labour members of the European Parliament are in the Socialist group of 66 MEPs from 9 Parliaments. Our leader is a German. It is in this international group that we debate policy. However, the 18 of us meet as British Labour MEPs to discuss other matters under the chairmanship of Mr John Prescott MP. Mr Bob Mitchell MP is his deputy. Mr Prescott is against direct elections and Mr Mitchell is in favour of them. Yet we elected both unopposed.

This flowed from the spirit of the Parliamentary Labour Party which in the election for members of the European Parliament voted for some who were in favour of direct elections and for some who were against direct elections. There need be no difficulty for the Labour Party and the Parliamentary Labour Party working in this spirit when compiling a representative national or regional list of Labour candidates. I am sure the other parties would be as responsible in ensuring that their list was also representative.

Very few members of the European Parliament believe that Britain will not honour her undertaking. Most continental MPs who know the phrase "Mother of Parliaments" are aware that when John Bright used it he referred to our country and not to our Parliament. Furthermore, they know that the opinion polls show 57 per cent of our electorate in favour of direct elections and only 22 per cent against.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY de FREITAS,
Vice-President,
European Parliament,
Vice-Presidents' Office, European Parliament,
1000 Brussels.
March 24.

Palestinian homeland

From Mr David Watkins, MP for Consett (Labour)

Sir, Perhaps it may be worth pointing out that President Carter's remark last week at Clinton, Massachusetts, that there has to be "a homeland" for the Palestinians is not quite the bombshell that some have made it out to be. A year before his election as President—and at that time outspoken support for the Palestinians was not likely to gain votes for a presidential candidate—Governor Carter said in Louisville, Kentucky, at a meeting of the "Democratic National Issues Conference":

"I think one of the integral parts of an ultimate settlement has got to be the recognition of the Palestinians as a people, as a nation, with a place to live and a right to choose their own leaders".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WATKINS,
House of Commons.
March 21.

Exit the cream cracker

From Mr I. G. Murray

Sir, As a small, independent ice cream manufacturer, I feel obliged to answer Mr Matthews' assertions (March 22).

Mr Matthews suggests that by marketing "real ice cream" consumption here would rise to the level of other countries. He might be surprised to know that according to the *1975 Walls Ice Cream Report*, consumption "per capita" in the United Kingdom was 4.9 litres—higher than the figures for West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and France.

Mr Matthews also deplores the use of "vegetable oil sludge", yet in 1971 at an international ice cream competition held in Paris, eleven out of twelve independent British manufacturers took top awards.

To justify his argument Mr Matthews points to the success of the American ice cream shops in London. Whilst their success cannot be denied nor their novelty value disputed, one must not overlook one major fact. They are charging more than twice the price of other outlets. If their type of ice cream and its consequential price were applied throughout the United Kingdom, I feel that not only would sales drop but, perhaps more sadly, children whose pocket money is known to be rising less than inflation would be the ultimate losers of the EEC draft regulations.

Yours sincerely,
I. G. MURRAY,
Murkoff,
118 Barking Road,
Canning Town, E16

Blueprint for radical tax reform

From the Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission

Sir, In this country a man owns his wife's income for tax purposes, and even correspondence about her *own* income is addressed to her husband by the Inland Revenue. Your article outlining a blueprint for tax reform (March 23) ignores the need for fundamental reform of this aspect of the tax system; a reform which would affect millions of married women.

At the moment, the only way a woman can escape this system is to opt for separate assessment on her earned income, but this is neither widely publicised nor encouraged by the Inland Revenue. Separate assessment is a more expensive way of dealing with the taxation of married couples, and this is surely another reason for rationalising the whole system.

We have had many complaints from the public about the treatment of married couples by the tax system as well as other tax anomalies, for example, the fact that women in receipt of maintenance payments may not only be liable for payment of income tax on the money, but may also qualify for investment income surcharge as well.

The Equal Opportunities Commission would welcome a less complex and less expensive system that allowed women the dignity of dealing with the taxation of their own income. We have already made detailed representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and will be publishing a consultative document on sex discrimination and taxation later this year.

Yours faithfully,
BETTY LOCKWOOD,
Chairman, Equal Opportunities Commission,
Overseas House,
Quay Street,
Manchester.
March 24.

From Mrs Jill Lever

Sir, I read *The Times* tax blueprint on March 23 with close interest since I have just spent much time trying to discover why the tax on a monthly-paid salary should be half as much again for March as it was in the several preceding months. It seems that the order had gone out that 573/22/R36 (as I am known to the tax man) was no longer permitted any tax allowances. And the reason for this was that 573 etc's (self-employed) husband was going to receive a rather nasty annual tax bill and to lessen the shock the Inspector of Taxes had decided to step up the rate of tax paid by the lady!

I should very much welcome a simpler and more comprehensible tax system.

Yours faithfully,
JILL LEVER,
291 Lansdowne Crescent, W11.
March 23.

Army violence in Ulster

From Mr Nick Ross

Sir, It seems that Mr Ian Gow, MP (Letters, March 16), does not believe my submission that civilians in Northern Ireland are frequently maltreated by some (though by no means all) units or individual members of the security forces. If so, he reinforces the premise of my original letter (March 14) that many people in authority do not see what they do not want to see. If, on the other hand, Mr Gow seeks simply to defend the security forces from partisan attack, his intentions are entirely laudable.

As to the fundamental questions posed by Mr Gow (do such incidents take place, and am I forwarding evidence to that effect to the Northern Ireland Office?), the answer to both is: yes. I have previously made clear my concern over this issue in private to Northern Ireland Office staff, and I believe some of them share my concern. It is a concern that does not stem from a naive acceptance of "terrorist propaganda"; indeed I believe it would be naive of me to assume that the many people in Northern Ireland who make or support allegations about the Army and police are all terrorist sympathizers.

Mr Gow will have noted the figures issued by the RUC two weeks ago which revealed that 306 official complaints had been received in the first three months of this year (as opposed to 290 in the same period last year). Many of those complaints are supported by respected doctors, lawyers and ministers of religion. It may be equally true, of course, that many of those complaints will be specious, or made by highly committed people. On the other hand many cases of minor maltreatment will not result in official complaints at all.

Of course it is usually hard to prove these sort of allegations in court, but then (as the Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland pointed out in your columns [March 17] it is hard to prove many things in court in Northern Ireland. If we were only to believe in those transgressions for which culprits had been found guilty in law, Northern Ireland would seem a safer place all round.

Yours sincerely,
NICK ROSS,
38 Willes Road, NW5.
March 17.

The fall of Rome

From Mr F. F. Cartwright

Sir, I have read with the greatest interest Dr Tony Smith's excellent article "Was it disease that finally killed off the Roman Empire?" (*The Times*, March 21). I have not yet had the opportunity of reading Professor McNeill's book *Plague and People* (quoted by Dr Smith) but his argument seems similar to that put forward in my own *Disease and History* written in collaboration with a historian, Dr Michael Biddiss, and published in 1972. Here we argue that malaria was the most significant infection in the Roman decline. Smallpox cannot be regarded as likely. The evidence strongly suggests that virulent smallpox (*variola major*) did not appear as a killer in Western Europe until the beginning of the sixteenth-century. Malaria seems to have become prevalent in Italy during the first-century AD and is the probable reason for the abandonment of the Campagna, once the market garden of Rome. Heavy infestation with the malarial parasite would account for physical degeneracy and loss of morale. Further, the chronic ill health of malaria would render the population more susceptible to exotic infections and thus account for the high mortality experienced during the pestilences which attacked Italy in the next three centuries. Thus Gibbon is right in attributing decline to degeneracy of the Roman, but degeneracy is attributable to a physical cause, malaria.

The exact diagnosis does not really matter; in fact, it is dangerous to make any certain diagnosis on second hand evidence. The essential fact is that disease of some kind played a large part in the downfall of Rome. Lay historians have sadly neglected the effects which disease, whether of the individual or of the community, have exerted upon the course of history. Medical writers tend to concentrate too much upon the nature of the disease. For instance, a great deal of ink has been wasted upon the sterile argument of whether Henry VIII did or did not suffer from syphilis. The point is no doubt of interest but of no great importance. What matters is the effect which Henry's illness had upon his actions and so upon events in the sixteenth-century.

The subject opens a very wide field which merits further exploration. But doctor and historian must explore the field hand in hand. A historian has not the requisite medical knowledge and doctors are not trained in historical methods. May I very strongly urge a much closer collaboration between the two disciplines? Much of history is now being rewritten with increased emphasis upon the social aspects. The effects of disease and of the conquest of disease undoubtedly influenced social development and deserve more attention than they have received.

I am yours faithfully,
F. F. CARTWRIGHT,
St Michael's Lodge,
Milverton,
Taunton,
Somerset.
March 22.

Training for social work

From the Director of Social Services, the City of Coventry

Sir, All involved in the provision of the personal social services will be grateful to Sir Derman Christopherson (Letters, March 15), Chairman of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work, for bringing to public notice the acute crisis which now faces social work training. As Sir Derman points out in his letter to you, unless some means can be found to avert that crisis, many students accepted for social work training courses starting in October this year will be unable to take up the places offered to them because of a serious lack of financial support for such students. Courses which are not filled may find their staff and other facilities withdrawn by the universities and polytechnics, leading to a decline in the availability of social work training from which it will take years to recover. It is paradoxical that this should be such an imminent possibility within a year of the publication of the Birch report, which recommended expansion of training opportunities for social workers.

It is essential that some means is found to prevent a crisis from occuring. The personal social services are vital for the well being of the community, yet of the staff currently employed only some 40 per cent of field social workers and 5 per cent of residential social workers hold a recognized qualification. Those responsible for the provision of the social services, both central government and local authorities, recognize the importance of training if services are to increase their effectiveness. A solution to the current difficulties must be found. It is ironical that mandatory grants will be available from but only discretionary awards (which are being drastically reduced in many areas) are available to social work students.

The only way in which action can be taken in time for a crisis to be avoided in the next academic year is for the Government to give special financial help to ensure that every student accepted for a social work course is able to take up his place. If special help is given for one year only a breathing space will have been gained which with the goodwill which is evident in all quarters should ensure that a permanent solution is available by the autumn of 1978.

It is vital that the social work training facilities which the country has developed at great expense to meet a universally recognized need are not allowed to wither away, with disastrous consequences for the clients of the personal social services and society as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
TOM WHITE,
Director of Social Services,
Past President of the Association of Directors of Social Services,
New Council Offices,
Coventry.
March 16.

Sunday post

From Mr David Barr

Sir, As post collected on a Saturday cannot be delivered until the Monday, if the Post Office insists on only one collection at a weekend, why not make that collection on Sunday.

This should enable all anxious correspondents to catch a weekend post in time (hopefully) for delivery on the Monday.

Yours truly,
DAVID BARR.

Liberal support for Labour

From Mr R. Pavry

Sir, Tell it not in Bath and whisper it not in the streets of Wimbledon that the Tories have, in their untimely quest for power, provided us with a Liberal Administration.

The Lord be praised!

Yours faithfully,
R. PAVRY,
35 Burghley Road,
Wimbledon, SW19.
March 23.

From Mr H. T. B. Reves

Sir, What an epitaph Mr Steel has prepared for the historians to write of him—that he and his Liberals have reached the nadir of politics in this country, by being responsible for keeping in power the worst Government this country has had this century.

Yours faithfully,
H. T. B. RYVES,
Cottage Farm,
Colgate,
Horsham,
Sussex.
March 23.

From Mrs Marjorie Forrester

Sir, One thing the events of the past few days have clearly shown is that it certainly *is* worthwhile voting Liberal.

Yours faithfully,
MARJORIE FORRESTER,
5 West Road,
Wharley End,
Cranfield,
Bedfordshire.

From Mr C. J. Casserley

Sir, May I respectfully suggest that Wednesday, March 23, 1977, be remembered in future as the Night of the Long Spoons?

Yours faithfully,
C. J. CASSERLEY,
7 Lyndhurst Terrace, NW3.
March 23.

Magiovinium

From Dame Kathleen Kenyon, FBA

Sir, May I draw attention to road schemes in connexion with Milton Keynes new town, which are still proceeding on the assumption that growth will be on the lines of the assumptions of the 1950s. In this case, it is not only the general principle and extravagance I deplore, but the fact that great damage will be done to an archaeological site, the Roman town of Magiovinium.

Magiovinium is a scheduled Ancient Monument, and the Department of the Environment has rightly insisted that the A5 diversion said to be required for the future development of Milton Keynes should avoid the scheduled area, though only by some 50 yards. Trial excavations have, however, shown that there are considerable Roman remains outside the scheduled area, possibly military in origin, or earlier than the final layout of the town. The DOE will of course excavate on the line of the proposed road, but this type of rescue archaeology, limited to the line of the road, is a poor way of investigating the history, probably very complex, of one of the very few untouched Roman towns in this country. Magiovinium deserves to wait until better times, when all finance does not have to be concentrated on rescue archaeology, and research archaeology once more becomes possible.

By calling a halt to this new road, much opposed locally, £23m will be saved, as will also an important piece of national history.

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN M. KENYON,
Rose Hill,
Erbistock,
Nr Wrexham,
Clwyd.
March 17.

Back-dated TV licences

From Mr S. C. Cole

Sir, Despite the crusading of Bernard Levin last year and the egg adhering to the face of the Home Secretary of that time after the television licence fee farce, your readers should be warned that the redoubtable Post Office is at it again.

As reported in your columns, the next (imminent) increase will be announced overnight and take effect immediately. There seems no reason to doubt press reports that colour licences will rise from £18 to £27.

This week a local post office refused to renew my colour licence, expiring on March 31, unless the new licence was back-dated to expire on February 28 next year. This astonishing fine for making payment in advance was quashed on appeal to the National TV Licence Records Office in Bristol. Others who may have been mulcted should certainly seek redress.

Yours faithfully,
S. C. COLE,
44 Denton Road,
Hornsey, N8.
March 22.

What Kipling wrote

From Miss Winifred Fox

Sir, Mr R. H. McCall (March 22) destroys at several strokes Kipling's lyric, surely one of the most remarkable he ever wrote, confounding as it does the outworn idea that he was incapable of such style and distinction. By misquotation the rhythm is lost, vital words omitted, new words added. Lack of space has altered the set-out of the lines. I set them out here as prose, but the words are correct. "This season's daffodil, she never hears what change, what chance, what chill, cut down last year's; but with bold countenance, and knowledge small, esteems her seven days' continuance to be perpetual." Blake has somehow crept in—a strange collaboration? Politics has no connection with what I write. I defend the poet's right, Sir, to be quoted as his inspiration instructed him.

Your obedient servant,
WINIFRED FOX,
Cowein House,
Pembroke Road.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: His Excellency Monsieur Mamadou Traoré was received in audience today by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Mali to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness: Monsieur Samballo Diallo (Counsellor).

Madame Traoré had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips.

Sir Andrew Stark (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Mr Gideon Rafael and Mrs Rafael were received in audience by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen, and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the State of Israel to the Court of St James's.

The Earl of Avon had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen, and delivered up the Insignia of the Order of the Garter worn by his late Father.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, having been received by the Mayor of Southwark (Councillor F. J. Francis), this afternoon opened the Exhibition "Women at War 1914-18" at the Imperial War Museum.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, and Captain Mark Phillips were present this evening at the Academy's Annual Awards Presentation at the Conference Centre, Wembley.

Her Royal Highness and Captain Phillips were received upon arrival by the Manager of the Conference Centre (Mr R. Miller) and the Chairman of the Academy (Mr R. Cawston).

Miss Rowena Brassey and Major Nicholas Lawson were in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon received the Presidents of Queen Mary's London Needlework Guild at St James's Palace on the occasion of the Guild's Annual General Meeting.

The Lady Jean Rankin was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales will attend a gala performance of *Volpone* in aid of the Queen's silver jubilee appeal at the National Theatre on April 23.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Rollo Charles, former Keeper of Art at the National Museum of Wales, will be held in Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff, at noon on Friday, April 1. Members of the public are invited to attend.

Birthdays today

Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte, 69; Lord Hemingford, 73; Mr David Hicks, 48; Professor Sir Norman Jeffcoate, 70; Lord Jessel, 73; Major-General S. W. Joslin, 78; Sir Geoffrey Keynes, 90; Mr David Lean, 69; Sir Bernard Miller, 73; Sir Kenneth Peppiatt, 84; Sir George Pope, 75; Mr A. J. P. Taylor, 71; Mr Peter Walker, MP, 45; Sir Owen Wansbrough-Jones, 72.

Today's engagements

Silver jubilee exhibition: Women at war, 1914-18, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth, 10-5.30.

Exhibition: Kings and Queens and Flying Machines, the British monarchy's connexion with aviation, RAF Museum, Hendon, 10-6.

George Eliot readings: From Milby to Middlemarch, by Gabriel Woolf, Herbert Lecture Theatre, Coventry, 7.30.

Music recital by members of the French song class, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Victoria Embankment, 1.10.

Let's Celebrate; the great events of the Christian year in dance, drama and poetry, St James's Church, Piccadilly, 6.30.

Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia, 10-9.

Marriage

Mr J. Leigh-Wood and Miss J. S. Martin Smith
The marriage took place in London on Thursday, March 24, between Mr James Leigh-Wood and Miss Sally Martin Smith. A service of dedication was held afterwards at The Church of St Margaret, Lothbury, at which the Rev John Smith officiated.

A small reception was held at Grocers' Hall.

Reception

Mrs V. O'Donovan
The Chairman of Kensington and Chelsea for Europe (British European Movement) and Mrs Vincent O'Donovan gave a reception for the patrons, president, vice-presidents, officers and committee at 26 Trevor Place, yesterday evening. Among those present were:
The Earl of Longford, Vera Countess Cathcart, Viscountess Combermere, Lord and Lady Wilberforce, Lord and Lady Craigmyle, Pamela Lady Torphichen, the Hon Con O'Neill (president) and Lady O'Neill, the Hon James and Mrs Tennant, Sir Geoffrey and Lady Jackson and Mr N. Scott, MP.

Memorial service

Sir Andrew Claye
A memorial service for Sir Andrew Claye was held at Leeds Parish Church yesterday. Canon R. G. G. Foley officiated. An address was given by the Right Rev A. Stretton Reeve and the lesson was read by Sir John Stallworthy, president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):
Atkinson, Miss Selina Ellen, of Harrogate £118,810
Beadle, Mr Frank, of Burstwick £146,588
Collum, Mr Robert Archibald Hugh, of Reigate Heath £241,184
Drake, Mr Jesse Lester Roderick, of Warminster, farmer .. £173,901
Edwards, Mr Ralph Sydney, of Havant, local government officer £120,678
Hall, Mr Henry, of Stoke-on-Trent £307,759
Pike, Mr Richard Cecil, of Westcliff-on-Sea £102,052
Sedgwick, Mr Leslie Pope, of Twickenham £382,237
Swinnerton, Mrs Agnes Mary, of Northleach £280,285
Turner, Mr Richard Albert of Hounslow, company director £145,839

Lord Thomson of Monifieth

The life barony conferred on Mr George Morgan Thomson has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Thomson of Monifieth, of Monifieth in the district of the city of Dundee.

North Downs Way

A further 30 mile section of the North Downs Way from west of Westerham Hill to Blue Bell Hill will be made available for public use on the Spring Bank Holiday, June 6.

Liberal candidate

Mr Brian Dawes, aged 36, of Reepham, Norfolk, has been chosen as prospective Liberal parliamentary candidate for Norfolk, North.

In the general election Mr Ralph Howell (C), had a majority of 11,121 in a three-cornered contest.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon S. E. G. Guest and Miss F. B. Lamont
The engagement is announced between Simon, second son of the Right Hon Lord Guest and Lady Guest, of 3 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh, and Fiona, twin daughter of the late Robert W. T. Lamont and of Mrs R. W. T. Lamont, of 25 Charles Street, Kilmarnock.

Mr G. J. Birch and Miss C. L. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Gary, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Birch, of Hampton Hill, and Carey, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. D. Robinson, of Haynes Church End, Bedfordshire.

Mr P. A. Diamond and Mrs S. E. Drewett
The engagement is announced between Patrick Anthony, only son of the late Mr John Diamond and Mrs John Diamond, of Wanstead, London, and Susan Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Bradley, of Solheim, King Edward Road, Onchan, Isle of Man.

Mr R. C. J. Fraser and Miss Z. R. Clarke
The engagement is announced between Robert Christopher James, son of the late Dr T. A. Fraser and of Mrs Fraser, of Hamilton Court, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, and Zarka Rosalind, daughter of Dr and Mrs E. G. W. Clarke, of Crix, Binfield, Berkshire.

Mr M. A. Hughes and Miss A. Holdsworth
The engagement is announced between Michael Antony, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. F. Hughes, of St Ebba's, Old Road, Headington, Oxfordshire, and Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Holdsworth, of 56 Sterling Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

Mr B. J. Papadimitriou and Miss L. Moffat
The engagement is announced between Basil, son of Mr and Mrs L. B. Papadimitriou, and Lorna, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. G. Moffat, of Harrow-on-the Hill, Middlesex.

Mr W. N. Parker and Miss V. B. Brett
The engagement is announced between William Northrop, son of the late Mr G. F. Parker and of Mrs Margery Parker, of Repton, Derbyshire, and Vanessa BaHol, daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Brett, of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

Captain J. M. A. Paxman and Miss R. A. O'Neill
The engagement is announced between Captain John Michael Anthony Paxman, Coldstream Guards, son of Mr and Mrs W. J. Paxman, of Kingston Hill, Surrey, and Rosetta Anne, eldest daughter of the Hon Phelim and Mrs O'Neill, of Lizard Manor, Aghadowey, co Londonderry.

Mr D. Woolf and Miss V. Perk
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr M. Raymond Woolf and the late Mrs Valerie Woolf, of 7 Stourcliffe Close, London, W1, and Vivienne, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs David Perk, of 25 Second Avenue, Lower Houghton, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Girls from Feltham Comprehensive School, London, ringing the tune of the nursery rhyme at the annual "Oranges and Lemons" service at St Clement Danes church in the Strand yesterday.

Luncheons

Ministry of Defence
The United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Admiral Sir Terence Lewin, Chief of the Naval Staff, were hosts at a luncheon at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of General Franz-Joseph Schulze, Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe. Others present were:
Herr Hans-Heinrich Noebel, Dr Kurt Stöcki, Colonel Kurt Graf von Schwerin; Air Chief Marshal Sir Ruthven Wade, General Sir John Gibbon, Air Marshal Sir David Evans, Sir Richard Sykes, Sir R. Anderson and Air Vice-Marshal J. Gingell.

Design Council
A luncheon to announce the Design Council's Poster Awards 1977 was held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy of Arts, was the guest of honour and was introduced by Viscount Caldecote, chairman of the council.

Lunchtime Comment Club
Sir John Colville was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Lunchtime Comment Club at the Connaught Rooms yesterday. Mr Douglas Pritchard, chairman of the club, presided.

Dinners

Anchorites
The Anchorites held a dinner at the Café Royal last night under the presidency of Mr J. Urquhart.

The principal guest was Mr J. Morris Gifford, Director General, National Ports Council, and President, Chartered Institute of Transport.

Admiralty Board
The Admiralty Board entertained the Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Sheriffs, at dinner on board HMS London last night. Mr Patrick Duffy, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence (Royal Navy), presided. Others present included:
The Earl of Inchcape, Lord Aldington, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Admiral Sir Terence Lewin, Admiral Sir Peter White, Vice-Admiral Sir Gordon Tait, Captain N. B. Wimbate, Vice-Admiral R. P. Clayton, Mr Basil Fehr, Mr R. B. Holroyd Pearce, Captain W. E. Warwick, Mr A. Hockaday, Mr B. W. Lythall, Mr D. J. Stephen, and Captain P. D. Nichol, RN.

Anglo-Israel Association
The Anglo-Israel Association held its twenty-ninth annual dinner at the Hilton hotel last night. The guests of honour and speakers were Sir Harold Wilson, MP, Mr Yitzhak Navon, MK, Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, and the Ambassador of Israel, Mr Gideon Rafael. Baroness Elliot of Harwood, president of the association, was in the chair and proposed the loyal toast. The dinner was attended by many supporters of Israel.

Pattenmakers' Company
At a court meeting of the Pattenmakers' Company held at Tallow Chandlers' Hall yesterday the following were elected for the ensuing year: Master, Mr W. H. Salamon; Upper Warden, Commander R. MacDonald-Hall; Renter Warden, Colonel M. L. Miron.

At a court dinner held afterwards the Master presided and the toast of the guests was proposed by Mr Jeremy Thorpe, MP.

Society of Industrial Artists and Designers
The Prime Minister was the guest of honour and principal speaker at the annual Minerva dinner of the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers held at Apothecaries' Hall last night. The other speakers were Mr Alex Jarratt and Mr Robert Wetmore, president of the society.

Coningsby Club
The Coningsby Club entertained Lord Hartwell at dinner at the Carlton Club last night. Mr Philip Heslop, honorary secretary, was in the chair.

Service dinners

Transport Officer in Chief (Army)
The Transport Officer in Chief (Army), Major-General P. H. Benson, held a dinner at RCT Headquarters Officers' Mess, Aldershot, last night. The principal guests were:
Lord Barneston, General Sir Edwin Bramall, Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Ford, Major-Generals D. B. Wood and T. S. C. Streatfeild, Brigadiers M. B. Farndale and G. H. W. Howlett, Mr A. T. J. Thomas and Mr N. S. Roberts.

The University of Birmingham Air Squadron
The University of Birmingham Air Squadron held their annual dinner at Birmingham University yesterday evening. The commanding officer, Squadron Leader G. S. Kennedy, presided and the principal guests included Professor A. J. Forty, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Warwick University and Air Vice-Marshal W. E. Colahan, AOC and Commandant, RAF College Cranwell.

New offence rejected by churches

From Our Correspondent
Llandudno

The National Free Church Federal Council, meeting at Llandudno, approved a report yesterday which rejects any introduction of a new offence of "mercy killing". Instead the report to be sent to the Criminal Law Revision Committee urges that judges should be given discretion in sentencing and that the arguments for and against the mandatory life sentence for murder should be reexamined.

The Rev John Atkinson, chairman of the group that compiled the report, said that assessing motives and defining the suffering that might be thought to justify a charge of "mercy killing" were likely to contain real dangers for society, without compensating gains in terms of justice. Giving a judge discretion was far less liable to abuse and dangerous extension.

The Board for Social Responsibility of the General Synod of the Church of England took part in the group's deliberations and agreed with the recommendations.

25 years ago

From The Times of Tuesday, March 25, 1952

Comet service

From Our Aeronautical Correspondent

British Overseas Airways announced last night that it will open the first regular jet airliner service in the world on May 2 when the de Havilland Comet will make its inaugural passenger-carrying flight in the corporation's Springbok route between London and Johannesburg. The first Comet service from South Africa to Britain will be on May 5. The Comet's flying time over the 6,724-mile route from London airport to Johannesburg will be 18hr 40min and in the reverse direction it will be 18hr 55min. The Comets will operate in conjunction with the Constellations of South African Airways, BOAC's partners, which fly via Rome, Khartoum and Nairobi in a journey time of exactly 29hrs from Johannesburg to London and 28hr 20min from Britain to the Union.

OBITUARY

SIR DERRICK CAPPER

West Midlands Police

Sir Derrick Capper, Chief Constable of the West Midlands from 1974 to 1975, died on March 21 at the age of 65. He had been Chief Constable of Birmingham for eleven years and headed the new area police authority during the first year of its life after local government reorganization.

William Derrick Capper was educated at Priory School, Shrewsbury, and Birmingham University. He joined the Metropolitan Police as a constable in 1935 and progressed—with a break in the years 1944-46 when he was an Assistant Superintendent with the Nigeria Police—up the ranks of that force to become Chief Superintendent in 1957.

In 1959 he went to Birmingham as Assistant Chief Constable and was deputy Chief Constable from 1959 to 1963. He was the city's Chief Constable from 1963 to 1974 and Chief Constable for a year of the West Midlands on the creation of the county in 1974. He was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in 1962 and knighted in 1968.

He married, in 1939, Muriel Woodhouse. They had two daughters.

SIR REGINALD DORMAN-SMITH

Professor Christopher Thorne writes:

Your obituary of Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith passed over certain important aspects of his career as Governor of Burma. They will be dealt with at some length in a forthcoming book concerning the war of 1941-1945 in the Far East, but I believe that they should receive at least a brief mention in your columns.

The statement that Sir Reginald resigned the office of Governor on the grounds of ill health in 1946 conceals the fact that he was dismissed in a remarkably shabby fashion by the then Secretary of State for Burma, Pethick Lawrence, and that thereafter he had to live under the cloud of being regarded, as he puts it in a recent letter, as "a failed ex-Governor". It was not a pleasant experience, although, typically, he would refer to it philosophically. From newly-available documentary evidence, however, it is possible to conclude, not only that Pethick Lawrence failed to run a straight course in his dealings with Sir Reginald in 1945-46, but that the latter has been given far less credit than is his due for the way in which he approached his responsibilities between the evacuation of Burma in 1942 and the Japanese surrender in 1945. In particular, it is seldom realized how, in the face of fierce opposition from Churchill, he maintained that Britain must grant independence to Burma as soon as possible after the war, and how he argued that British firms returning to operate in Burma should be required to share the control of their operations and their profits with the Burmese.

When it came to discussing the events of those years, Sir Reginald was unfailingly kind and patient, and was, moreover, very ready to question the correctness of judgments and decisions he had made at the time. He liked to recall that, before deciding to enter Sandhurst he had won a History Scholarship to Hertford, and he remained most sympathetic to the aims and methods of the contemporary historian who arrived in order to probe his memory and obtain access to his private papers.

VISCOUNT GOSCHEN

Colonel Viscount Goschen, KBE, late Grenadier Guards, who died on March 22, at the age of 70, was Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, assistant Government Chief Whip in the House of Lords 1962-64 and 1970-71, and Chief Opposition Whip in the Lords 1964-70. He had been a Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees, House of Lords.

The eldest surviving son of the Hon Sir William Goschen, KBE, he succeeded to the Viscountcy on the death of his uncle in 1952.

He was educated at Eton and RMC, Sandhurst and was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1926. He saw service in Italy, France and Greece in the Second World War.

He was twice married and is succeeded by the son of his second marriage the Hon Giles John Harry Goschen.

MR JOHN EVAN MORRIS

Mr John Evan Morris, who died on March 21 at the age of 92, was a respected Welshman.

Mr Morris joined the family wholesale grocery business Morris and Jones, Liverpool, as a young man: the business flourished under his supervision, ultimately becoming a public company in 192[illegible]

Throughout his life he took keen interest in the public affairs of North Wales and became High Sheriff of Denbighshire in 1927.

Having retired from business he took up farming in the Vale of Clwyd, establishing so high a reputation that his farm became the centre for frequent demonstrations of farm management. He was a generous benefactor both to his home village of Llansannan—to which he gave a doctor's surgery and clinic—and also to the Presbyterian Church of Wales and numerous other causes.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
The following to be members of the Standing Advisory Council on Race Relations:
Mr F. D. Pickering, chmn, Berkshire CC; Mr B. E. Green, mbr, Nottingham City C; Mr T. McLachlie, mbr, W Midlands CC and Coventry Met Dist C; Mrs Y. Steve, GLC mbr for Ealing, Southall; Mr R. W. G. Humphreys, mbr, Camden BC; Mr W. H. Keys, gen sec, Sogat; Miss K. Francis, exec offr, Nat Assn of Comm Rel Cs; Mr S. I. Aziz, pers offr, Mars Ltd; Dr S. S. Chatterjee, cons chest phys, Wythenshawe Hosp; Mrs Y. Cohally, Head, Ring Cross Inf S, Islington; Mrs P. Carabbe, sec, London Brock Adv Cen; Dr F. Hashmi, cons psych, W Midlands RHA; Mr H. W. Hay, TGWU convenor, GEC, Coventry; Dr Md Iqbal, chem lecturer and adviser to overseas students, Huddersfield Poly; Mr R. Jain, org sec, Nat Assn of Indian Youth, Southall; Miss C. John, solicitor, London; Mrs K. K. Khan, teacher, Notre Dame HS, Dumbarton; Lord Pitt of Hampstead, chmn-designate, Commy Rels Commissn; Mr K. M. Shah, mbr, Leicester City C; Professor H. Singh, lecturer in world religions; Mr S. Springer, mbr, Hackney BC.

Mr Anthony Clarke, aged 47, assistant chief constable (operations), South Wales, to be deputy chief constable of Humberside.

Mr R. H. Haythornthwaite to be county court registrar and district registrar of the High Court in the Burnley and Rochdale group, from May 2, replacing Mr Registrar Verity, who will be transferred to become joint county court and district registrar in the Preston group, in place of the late Mr C. R. Davies.

Mr J. E. A. R. Guinness to be deputy chairman of the Public Works Loan Commission, in succession to Mr F. Haywood, who is retiring on March 31.

Mr R. W. E. Law to be a commissioner from April 1.

University news

Oxford
The Wolfson Foundation has given £50,000 to Somerville College for the endowment of a tutorial fellowship in natural science. The first holder is Dr Carole Jordan, a former principal scientific officer in the Science Research Council's astrophysics research division at Culham Laboratory. She will study conditions in the outer layers of the atmosphere of the Sun.

Elections
MAGDALEN COLLEGE: Official fellowship as tutor in economics, A. B. von Hohenbalken, BLit, BSc (Lond), DESS (Paris).
QUEEN'S COLLEGE: Fellowship and praelectorship in French, R. A. G. Pierson, MA, DPhil, lecturer of the college. Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth Professorship of American History, 1978-79, K. A. Graebner, BS (Milwaukee State Teachers' College), MA (Oklahoma), PhD (Chicago), Stettinius Professor of History, Virginia University. Readership in bacteriology: J. S. Porterfield, MD, ChB (Liverp), National Institute for Medical Research.

Cambridge
Elections
CLARE COLLEGE: Fellowship in class B, D. J. Tolhurst, MA, PhD, Churchill College, university demonstrator in physiology.
KING'S COLLEGE: Junior official fellowships (internal): M. J. Perry, BA (Oxon), R. L. Znajek, MA (Cantab), P. A. Lomas, BA (Oxon). Fellowship for one year from Oct 1: H. Burns, MA (Cantab), Slade Professor-elect of Fine Art, 1977-78. Junior unofficial fellowships (external) from Oct 1: D. L. Rubenstein, BS (Michigan); and P. L. J. Halstead, MA (Cantab).

Tax-exemption guide to properties

A new memorandum outlining the categories of national heritage property eligible for conditional exemption from capital transfer tax has been issued by the Treasury.

It comes after the recent offer to the nation by Lord Rosebery of Mentmore Towers for £3m in lieu of death duties on the estate of his father, the sixth earl. Copies of the memorandum can be obtained from Mrs A. Murray, HM Treasury, Parliament Square, London, SW1P 3AG.

Church news

Diocese of Peterborough
The Rev E. Buchanan, Vicar of Duston and Rural Dean of Wootton, and the Rev C. H. Whiteman, Vicar of St Andrew's, Kettering, and Rural Dean of Kettering, to be non-residentiary canons of Peterborough Cathedral.

Diocese of Rochester
The Rev J. Peel, curate of Westbury with Westbury Leigh and Dilton, diocese of Salisbury, to be Vicar of Borstal.
The Rev P. G. H. Thomas, Vicar of Cosham, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Rector of Hayes.

Resignations
The Rev J. Bromley, Vicar of Broughton with Milton Keynes, diocese of Oxford, on May 15.
The Rev R. H. Edmonds, Team Rector of Central Torquay Team Ministry, diocese of Exeter, on May 1.
The Rev R. Hill, Vicar of Westbury with Turweston, diocese of Oxford, on April 30.
The Rev H. B. Joyce, Vicar of Hathersage, Sheffield, diocese of Derby, on June 30.
The Rev F. W. Pennington, Vicar of North Molton with Twitchen, diocese of Exeter, on April 30.

Extraordinary prices paid for Japanese prints

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The third and final sale at Sotheby's devoted to the famous Henri Vever collection of Japanese prints produced extraordinary prices yesterday. The sale, which had been expected to make £136,235 totalled £330,680; the collection, sold in three parts, has realized £1,838,695.

Two separate Japanese dealers had chartered aircraft to bring collectors to the sale, one from Tokyo and one from Kyoto. Much of the Japanese national collection was acquired from Vever in the 1920s; his name thus stands high in Japan. Vever himself was a French jeweller, artist and collector of various items. He died in 1943.

Yesterday's sale essentially contained the left-overs of the collection, some fine prints but mostly in indifferent condition. A Harunobu print of a girl parachuting into the branches of a flowering cherry made the top price at £8,600 (estimate £400 to £500). Only one other impression of the print is recorded. She is apparently testing whether Buddha wishes her to marry; if she reaches the ground alive, he approves.

Other outstanding prices included a Sharaku portrait print of an actor, in fairly poor state, at £8,000 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500), a magnificent close up portrait of an actor's expression by the late eighteenth-century artist Toyokuni at £5,000 (estimate £500 to £600) and a bust portrait of an actor by his pupil, Kunimasa, at £2,000 (estimate £300 to £400).

A sale of watercolours at Sotheby's made £54,510, with 4 per cent unsold. Baskett and Day paid the top price at £3,800 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000) for a sketch by Richard Dadd, executed in Bethlehem Hospital, to illustrate "Passions—suspense or expectation". Sotheby's silver sale made £24,652, with 5 per cent unsold.

Ader et Picard held their important spring sale of modern pictures in Paris on Wednesday night, including the collection of sporting paintings formed by M Jacques Borie. On home ground the French artist, Alfred de Dreux, beat the English school financially when a fine hunting scene was sold for 220,000 francs, or £25,701. The top price among the Herrings was 190,000 francs, or £22,196, for a stable scene with the 1844 St Leger winner "Faugh-a-Ballagh".

The sale included a group of four hunting scenes by Alken, which had featured in the Jack Dick collection sale at Sotheby's in April, 1975. Then they fetched £14,000; yesterday the price was 140,000 francs, or £16,355. The top price in the sale was 540,000 francs, or £63,084, for Claude Monet's "Sur la rivière" of 1897.

The United States was represented by the popular modern primitive Grandma Moses with "The trappers, No 2" of 1943 at 70,000 francs, or £8,178.

The print of a girl parachuting into a cherry tree that made £8,600 at Sotheby's yesterday.

Presentation of addresses

On the occasion of the silver jubilee both Houses of Parliament will present addresses to the Queen in Westminster Hall at noon on Wednesday, May 4.

The House of Lords and the House of Commons will meet for prayers at 11 am after which peers and members of Parliament proceed to Westminster Hall to be seated by 11.30 am.

Peers and members of Parliament will not require tickets for Westminster Hall but are requested to inform the secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain or the Speaker's assistant-secretary respectively if it is their intention to be present.

A limited number of tickets will be available for the spouses of peers and members of Parliament or for friends of unmarried peers or Members of Parliament, on the understanding that the peer or member of Parliament will be present at the ceremony.

Peers wishing to apply for a ticket should write to the secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain by Thursday, April 7, 1977, and members of Parliament to the Speaker's assistant secretary by the same date. Entry for ticket holders will be by the north door of Westminster Hall only, which will be opened at 10.15 am and closed at 11.15 am.

Parking facilities for peers' cars have been arranged. In order that appropriate labels may be issued, peers are requested to indicate to the secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain whether they will be chauffeur-driven, owner-driven or coming by taxi.

Dress for gentlemen will be morning dress or lounge suit, and for ladies day dress. Parliamentary robes will not be worn.

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

The seventy-fourth annual meeting of the Governors of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund was held at 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2, on March 24, 1977. The president, the Hon Angus Ogilvy, took the chair. The annual report was presented by Professor Sir Eric Scowen, chairman of the council, and the accounts for the year ended September 30, 1976, were submitted by Sir Nigel Mordaunt, treasurer.

Science report

Geophysics: Iceland expands

Down the middle of the Atlantic Ocean runs a continuous broad range of mountains. It is along the centre of this chain that material is believed to rise from the Earth's mantle and form new crust, shouldering aside previously inserted rock and steadily pushing Europe and America farther apart. A rare opportunity for watching the process in action is occurring in northern Iceland.

Iceland is the only part of the mid-Atlantic Ridge that breaks surface and so allows detailed study of the separation, which should be at a rate of about 2 centimetres per year. Careful surveying over the past forty years has made clear that that cannot be a smooth process, as the evidence for any horizontal movements at all is at best ambiguous. That is not entirely surprising, as along the whole of the ridge there are only occasional large earthquakes, which suggests an episodic character to movement.

On December 20, 1975, the apparent calm in Iceland was broken. Along a north-south sector of about 80 km activity started up. An increase in the number of small earthquakes had already been noted earlier in the year and a local civil defence committee was set up to plan against any emergency. On December 20, seismic disturbances on one part of the fault became almost continuous and lava was erupted briefly from one of the existing fissures. Within a couple of hours a 40km length of the fault was seismically active. Activity continued on the fault for all of 1976, with one or two damaging quakes and thousands of smaller events.

A geothermal power station is under construction along the fault zone and extensive surveying in its vicinity has shown that while the earthquakes were occurring the ground was also tilting and undergoing changes in elevation. The largest subsidence found in the early months was two metres, but as time went on the ground gradually rose again at a rate of about half a centimeter a day.

As recently as January 20 this year, however, there was further subsidence, and it is not expected that the complex activity of minor eruptions, earthquake swarms and ground displacement will die down for some years, in the estimation of the team of five Icelandic scientists who have been studying the phenomenon.

In some places the widening of the fault area has already exceeded one metre and that is strong evidence that the process, at least in Iceland, runs in episodes of substantial movement followed by dormant periods. Earlier eruptions in the area occurred in 1724 and 1874, so it seems possible that the episodes recur about once every 100-150 years.

By Nature-Times News Service.
Source: *Nature* 266, 318-323 (March 24, 1977).

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BUSINESS NEWS

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North Sea fields boost output to third of British oil demands

By Roger Vielvoye

...il output from the British ...tor of the North Sea ...ped by more than 100,000 ...rels a day during February. ...e offshore fields are now ...able of meeting over a ...rd of the country's oil ...uirements.

With production averaging ...,000 barrels a day (b/d) ...pared to 525,000 b/d in ... previous month, the North ...a is saving Britain well ...er ...n a day in imports.

But with the seven produc... fields still building up ...eir output and more reser... ...irs due to start up during ...e year, there is considerable ...vernment hope that last ...ar's oil import bill of ...er £4,000m can be trimmed to ...ct deficit of under £2,000m.

At an average of 632,000 bar... a day, annual output ...uld be about 32 million tons ... a year—only 3 million short ... the lower end of the Depart...ent of Energy's forecast of be...ween 35 and 45 million tons ...f oil in 1977.

Further monthly rises in out...ut should ensure that the ...pper end of the estimates are ...chieved, and there is still a ...ossibility that more than 45 ...million tons could be produced ...is year. "This would be ...quivalent to half of the ...ountry's oil requirements.

Government production fore...asts are linked to estimates of ...eserves alone totalling over ...100 million tonnes from areas ...ready covered by licences.

Mr Peter Baxendell, a ...anaging director of the Royal ...utch/Shell group and chair...an of Shell UK put the total ...stimates for the whole of the ...ritish sector at 3,000 million ...ns.

"This figure is at the lower ...nd of the spectrum of avail...ble forecasts, but I believe ...stifiably so", he said in ...ronto. "However, that three ...illion ton figure represents a ...tal worth as crude in present day terms of around $300,000m."

Shell is a partner with Esso in the Brent field development, and it is increased output from this field that helped to boost Britain's oil fortunes last month. Brent is producing 60,000 barrels a day, while output from the Occidental group's Piper field has soared to 95,000 barrels a day.

British Petroleum's Forties field is still by far the biggest producer, with 380,000 barrels a day during February. Other producers were Auk (Shell/Esso) 50,000 b/d; Beryl (Mobil/British Gas) 35,000 b/d; Montrose (Amoco/British Gas) 6,000 b/d. The Hamilton Brothers Argyll field did not produce during February because of adverse weather conditions.

In Toronto Mr Baxendell said his reserve figures were equal to 30-35 years of United Kingdom consumption at present rates. Self-sufficiency should be reached by 1980, but this did not mean that self-sufficiency could be maintained for 30 years or more.

Oilfields unfortunately declined steadily in output as the pressure in the reservoir reduced. And there was the additional complication that a government decision had to be made on how much the economy should benefit from crude exports above the self-*sufficiency level*.

"The higher the production levels in the short term, the shorter will be the self-sufficiency period," he said.

Mr Baxendell said the net current account benefit derived from North Sea oil activity should be around £1,000m in 1977, rising to over *£5,000m in 1980. If the value* of North Sea gas were taken into account the 1980 figure would be well over £8,000m.

"Assuming the price of oil maintains its value in real terms, that figure should more than double by 1985, based on an offtake of approximately 50 per cent above self-sufficiency levels", he added.

Standstill for MLR as £800m stock is sold out

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

With the new £800m partly-paid Exchequer stock proving the expected sell-out yesterday morning, the Bank of England signalled to the money markets during the afternoon that it does not wish to see a further fall in interest rates at this week's Treasury bill tender.

This presumably means that the Bank is going to hold its minimum lending rate at 10½ per cent for at least a further week, although a Treasury bill tender at roughly the same level of last week would in theory still allow the Bank scope to cut MLR by up to half a point more to 10 per cent this afternoon.

The Bank's "signal" was given by forcing the discount houses to borrow a large amount (£100m-£150m) at MLR for seven days. News of the Bank's move, which was taken to mean that the Bank was adopting a rather firmer line on interest rates this week than had commonly been expected, immediately trimmed back earlier gains in the gilt markets. But the new Exchequer stock is still expected to open at a reasonable premium today, probably of about half a point.

Although the Bank does not supply figures on the total applications for the new stock —Exchequer 12¼ per cent 1992, *offered at £96 per cent but with* only £15 per cent payable on application—it would seem that the stock was roughly four times subscribed.

The basis of allotment is as follows: applications for up to £50,000 nominal of stock, allotted in full; for £51,000-£205,000 nominal, allotted £50,000; for £206,000 and above, allotted 23.88 per cent of application.

The attraction to the authorities of issuing a partly-paid stock at this stage is largely that it ties the market into a future funding commitment in the opening months of the next financial year.

The new stock is £40 per cent payable on April 25, with the final call for the remaining £41 per cent falling on June 13. These calls will be treated as gilt sales at the date of call and count towards meeting the Government's domestic credit expansion target for the financial year 1977-78.

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CBI attack on price control plan firmly rejects call for freeze

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

A scathing attack on the Government's proposed new price restraint policies is contained in the Confederation of British Industry's official memorandum commenting on the consultative document from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

The memorandum, published yesterday, maintains the CBI's major confrontation with the TUC on powers to freeze prices. The CBI also continues its demand for all price controls to run only for one year, compared with the plan by Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State at the Department, to make the main legislation permanent.

But there appear to be seeds of agreement on some issues, especially in building in current cost accounting principles. The CBI also holds back from threatening lack of cooperation by industrialists in setting up the membership of a revamped Price Commission.

What now seems likely is that a comparatively simple Bill setting out the Government's plans in general terms will emerge *from the drafting committee* now at work. Some of the more controversial issues, such as profit margin controls, can be dealt with subsequently by legislation.

This would give Mr Hattersley more time for manoeuvre to draw the most reasonable line between the demands of the TUC and the CBI and the Retail Consortium. There could still then be some trade-off between the progress or otherwise of the phase three pay talks and the final form of all the price controls.

The CBI memorandum says price control cannot be justified economically and gives a warning: "Use of controls to hold down prices when costs are rising sharply and profits are already squeezed will lead to higher unemployment, cutbacks *in investment and ultimately* bankruptcies".

It adds: "The Government's consultative document talks of making business pricing decisions 'socially accountable' but makes no attempt whatsoever to explain or justify this ridiculous concept".

The CBI clashes strongly with TUC opinion on the time a price restraint order should last *after a commission investigation*. Mr Hattersley has suggested a 12-month period, the TUC has urged there should be an option to extend that and the CBI wants no longer than six months.

But the CBI has seized on Mr Hattersley's offer, in the *consultative document*, to consider providing for current cost accounting (CCA) in the operation of profit margin controls, detailed proposals for which will be made later.

On the criteria proposed as a general guide to the Price Commission the CBI urges that the commission "should have full regard to the principles of inflation accounting".

In addition to retaining existing reliefs under present *margin controls*—the target of some criticism from the TUC—the CBI wants provisions to allow companies to benefit from greater efficiency together with an improvement in safeguards and some investment relief provisions.

Hugh Clayton writes: Secrecy in proposed curbs on prices was condemned yesterday as the food industry told the Government of looming dangers to investment. The Food and Drink Industries Council said: "The whole line of the proposals indicates that decisions would be taken by the Price Commission behind closed doors and recommendations made to the Secretary of State on undisclosed grounds.

"The food and drink industries will oppose strongly all attempts to freeze their prices temporarily as a result of decisions made in secret".

It said prices should not be frozen while the Price Commission examined the reasons for them. The safeguards suggested by Mr Hattersley, which would be based on "minimum acceptable profit margins" were dismissed as inadequate.

"We are apprehensive that the safeguard would not be set at the necessary level, and thus that any freeze would mean less funds for investment."

Whitehall's Siberia to top post at Treasury

Mr Lawrence Airey: chief overseer of economic machinery.

Mr Lawrence Airey, who will succeed Mr Alan Lord as Second Permanent Secretary in charge of the Treasury's Domestic Economy Sector on April 1, began his career in Whitehall's equivalent of a Siberian power station. For seven years he analysed, in deathless prose, no doubt, the morbidity and mortality statistics compiled by the Office of the Registrar General.

In 1956, the Treasury decided the General Registry was grossly overstaffed and Mr Airey found himself taking minutes at the Cabinet committee dealing with Suez. Few *transformations can have been* as abrupt, and he quotes Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado* to explain how he felt: "Taken from a county goal, By a set of curious chances...." There was another principal in the Cabinet Office at that time called Fairey, and, inevitably, the team become known as "Airey/Fairey".

His latest promotion gives Mr Airey the chairmanship of the Industrial Strategy Staff Group, a monthly meeting of the TUC, CBI, NEDO and Whitehall economic departments, the key committee in the Government's attempt to regenerate British industry. The essence of that strategy, he explains, is the coordination of all aspects of policy in support of the priority given to manufacturing industry.

North Sea oil can be used as the foundation of Britain's permanent economic recovery. Its fruits must not be squandered for short-term gains or else there *will eventually* be a "sickening lurch" back into the difficulties of the 1960s and early 1970s. Avoiding that regression he defines as the fundamental problem of British government and, at 51, he is in the centre of it.

Mr Airey has direct personal knowledge of North Sea oil. *He is one of two civil servants* on the board of the British National Oil Corporation, an experiment he would like to see extended with Whitehall under secretaries on the board of British Steel, British Rail and the National Coal Board.

A tall, thin, quietly spoken man with a slight Geordie accent, he read history at Peterhouse, going up to Cambridge from Newcastle Royal Grammar School after the war. He still reads a good deal of seventeenth century English history. Another passion is early nineteenth century Russian literature, and he will immerse himself on holiday next week in a little known author called Korolenko.

He made his name in Whitehall in the mid-1960s working on the Treasury's nationalized industries desk under the present Secretary of the Cabinet, Sir John Hunt. One of his first tasks as Second Permanent Secretary will be to prepare the Government's latest White Paper on the nationalized industries expected in the summer.

His most difficult job to date, Mr Airey says, was as an Under Secretary in Sir Douglas Allen's "private army", the coordinating unit set up by the then Permanent Secretary. He spent two trouble-shooting years in it in the early 1970s, handling, among other things, the economic and monetary aspects of Britain's accession to the EEC.

His present job as Deputy Secretary respousible for industrial strategy, nationalized industries and industrial assistance has been a direct prepara*tion for his new post. Most of* the lame ducks that have crashed through the Treasury's skylight in recent years have landed on his desk. Mr Airey has come a long way from mortality and morbidity statistics.

Peter Hennessy

Pru bids for Standard Trust

By Our Financial Staff

After a protracted takeover struggle, the future control of Standard Trust moved closer to a conclusion yesterday when Prudential Assurance emerged as the unnamed bidder Standard referred to in its statement on Wednesday evening.

In a bid that has the backing of the Standard board, the Prudential is offering 124 of its shares for every 100 held in Standard.

With the Prudential's shares falling 8p to 128p on news of the approach, this values Standard at 159p a share and the entire investment trust at £37m.

The bid includes a 70p offer for each £1 nominal of preference stock and underwriting for a cash alternative worth 148.8p a share was hastiy arranged yesterday by Morgan Grenfell and Rowe & Pitman. But the offer is not being extended to holders of the debenture capital.

Mr Peter Moody, a joint investment manager of the Prudential, agreed that the takeover amounted to a "quasi rights issue".

The offer from the Prudential, which already holds around 11 per cent of Standard, is the third approach Standard has had since the British Rail Pension Funds opened the bidding back in January.

Earlier this week unit trust group Schlesinger also announced that it had approached Standard with two proposals for unitization.

Standard has firmly opposed the Brittrailpen approach, currently worth around 138p, and that is due to close today while Schlesinger's offer, which it *reckons is worth some 140p* cash, has been widely regarded as a non-starter.

Financial Editor, page 19

Monopolies panel bars Pilkington takeover of UKO International

By Nicholas Hirst

Pilkington Brothers has been barred by the Monopolies Commission from taking over Britain's major ophthalmic lens group, UKO International.

The commission's report on the merger, which was asked for in September after Pilkington's hotly contested cash and a paper bid, then worth £23.4m, was published yesterday.

Its conclusion that any potential benefits to the public interest would be outweighed by the detrimental consequences was accepted by the Government and Mr John Fraser, a minister at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, told the Commons that the Director General of Fair Trading was to be asked to obtain an undertaking from Pilkington not to proceed.

UKO International is clearly delighted by the result of the commission's study, which gives *six specific areas where the* merger might act against the public interest.

A spokesman said: "It is an excellent decision. The commission has taken all the major points we made."

At Pilkington Brothers a spokesman said: "We need to study the report in detail and *will decide at a later stage* whether to comment on it.

The decision against the merger was five-to-one, the dissenter being Mr George Ashford, a past director of BP and a director of Albright and Wilson.

Mr Ashford wrote: "If a merger does take place, in my opinion technical progress is likely to be faster than without a merger". He also denied several of the damaging effects the other members of the commission believed would flow from the merger.

The commission believed that if the merger went through Pilkington might not give sufficient priority to the immediate needs of the British mass lens industry; that the development of plastic lenses might be hindered; that the ophthalmic glass industry might not remain internationally competitive; that prices for both lenses and blanks could rise; that there could be an adverse effect on the balance of payments and a risk of discrimination against independent prescription houses (the wholesale link in the chain of which the combined group would have a 15 per cent market share).

Pilkington's case for the merger was based on the belief that its techniques in glass making would be of great benefit to a merged group. Pilkington was also worried by the power of UKO International as a monopoly buyer of its blanks.

UKO, while considering the bid price inadequate, could see nothing to suggest that Pilkington's research ability was particularly relevant to the mass grinding and polishing of ophthalmic lenses.

Financial Editor, page 19

Shell drilling rig runs aground

By Our Energy Correspondent

A new jack-up drilling rig in which the Royal Dutch/Shell group has a 50 per cent interest has run aground in Japan while being towed to its first drilling location.

First reports suggested that the Interocean I was seriously damaged when it went ashore at Nasa Bay on Shikoko Island. However, Shell and the Offshore Company, its partners in the Interocean Drilling Company, have been unable to confirm these reports.

The rig which was built by Sumitomo was being taken from the construction yard when the two boats towing the rig ran into bad weather.

Borthwick lifts offer for FMC

Thomas Borthwick yesterday increased its offer for FMC in accordance with rule 32 of the takeover code.

An announcement from its merchant bank advisers said Borthwick had paid 113p so far for FMC shares. That was a higher price than the outstand*ing offer; so Borthwick was* increasing its bid from seven Borthwick shares for every six FMC to 25 Borthwick shares for every 16 in FMC, with a cash alternative equivalent to 80p per Borthwick share.

Borthwick had previously said it would offer the increased terms only if FMC recommended the offer. No recommendation has been forthcoming

De La Rue sells its Formica stake to American Cyanamid for £9.6m

By Our Financial Staff

De La Rue, the security printing and graphics group, is selling its 60 per cent stake in Formica International to the American Cyanamid Company, which holds the remaining equity. It was a move which the market had half expected.

The consideration for the holding is £9.6m, some £446,000 under net worth, of which £2m is payable on completion; £1.15m on April 1 in each year from 1978 to 1981 and £3m at the same date in the following year. All deferred instalments of the purchase price will be represented by negotiable unsecured ACC debentures which De La Rue intends to hold to maturity.

The deal is subject to the approval of the Bank of England for exchange control clearance, and a clean bill of health at the Office of Fair Trading.

Formica has long been the most volatile part of De La Rue's operations and, while it contributed comfortably more than 50 per cent of total pre-tax profits two years ago, its post-tax and minority loss of £219,000 applicable to the 60 per cent stake contrasts with a total group attributable profit of £6.41m in the nine months to end-December last.

The vendor, headed by Sir Arthur "Gerry" Norman, decided to sell last January and its thinking was prompted by the rapid growth of the security business and the considerable investment required over a prolonged period into new fields of activity.

Equally, the group took the plunge in the knowledge that Formica faced the continuing difficulties of high costs, and stiff competition. The financing of its activities around the world from a United Kingdom *base necessitated either heavy* overseas borrowing or dollar premium costs.

Stripping out Formica, the balance sheet total falls from the published £72m to £43.6m, taking in the cash consideration in full, while gearing drops from around 29 per cent to 23 per cent.

Despite losing some initial enthusiasm in after hours trading the shares climbed 11p on balance yesterday to 373p.

June date for credit licence applications

The start of the second stage of consumer credit licensing was announced by the Office of Fair Trading yesterday. Businesses engaged in lending money, offering credit or giving time to pay, or which hire, lease or rent out goods are invited to apply for licences before June 30.

The OFT says it would like *businesses requiring a licence* to apply early so that queries may be sorted out or mistakes corrected well in advance of the closing date.

Peachey chief rules out SE suspension

Mr Eric Miller

By Ray Maughan

Reacting *sharply* to the savage bear raid which forced shares in Peachey Property Corporation down by 9p yesterday to 29p, Sir Eric Miller, the chairman, denied that there was any question of asking for a suspension. At one time during the day the shares were only 23p.

Sir Eric also quashed a series of rumours, commenting: "How they have come about, I do not know."

"One rumour suggested that I was supposed to have been arrested in Holland", he said. "I have not even been out of this country for three months. I would like to know who started these stories."

The price is believed to have been dented by the sale of a substantial line of stock last week.

Sir Eric, who was knighted in Sir Harold Wilson's last honours list, said: "I have spoken to the Stock Exchange who asked me if I had sold. I have not sold and I do not know of any director who has."

He was concerned about the *whispers surrounding the company*, but not about its financial position since it is in profit.

The market is periodically disturbed by the time lag between Peachey's year-end and the announcement of its results. Next Wednesday Sir Eric will be reporting for the year ended June 24, 1976, which he admitted is late, but the collection of overseas figures always takes a long time.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 172.86—1.80
The FT index: 421.4—6.0

Falls

...s of NSW	20p to 425p	Ocean Wilsons	7p to 178p
...P	24p to 816p	Paterson Zoch	10p to 205p
...rown	7p to 160p	Peachey Prop	9p to 28p
...VII	5p to 220p	Prudential	8p to 128p
...KN	5p to 356p	Shell	16p to 486p
...ake & Elliot	3p to 47p	Sun Alliance	7p to 448p
...banon	20p to 250p	Surmah Valley	5p to 45p
...ster	2p to 26p	UKO Int	10p to 150p
...essina Trans	10p to 195p	Ultramar	10p to 144p
...ount Lyall	3p to 42p	Weir Group	9½p to 84p

Rises

...e La Rue	11p to 373p	Pork Farms	10p to 167p
...lynwed	6p to 111p	Press, W.	5½p to 61½p
...archwiel	7p to 164p	Standard Trust	18p to 148p
...wen Owen	5p to 77p	UC Invest	5p to 190p

...quities succumbed to profit ...king.

...lt-edged securities lost early ...ins.

...ollar Premium 111.25 per cent ...effective rate 38.937 per cent).

...terling was unchanged at $1.7180.

The effective rate was 61.8 per cent.

Gold fell $1 an ounce to $152.625.

SDR-$ was 1.15877 on Thursday, while SDR-£ was 0.674331.

Commodities: Coffee and cocoa prices fell. Reuter's index was at 1744.4 (previous 1748.1).

Reports, pages 21 and 23

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.61	1.56
Austria Sch	30.25	28.25
Belgium Fr	65.00	62.00
Canada $	1.85	1.80
Denmark Kr	10.35	9.95
Finland Mkk	6.75	6.50
France Fr	8.77	8.45
Germany Dm	4.27	4.05
Greece Dr	64.75	61.75
Hongkong $	8.20	7.75
Italy Lr	1555.00	1500.00
Japan Yn	500.00	475.00
Netherlands Gld	4.45	4.23
Norway Kr	9.28	8.92
Portugal Esc	68.00	64.00
S Africa Rd	1.87	1.74
Spain Pes	121.50	113.25
Sweden Kr	7.50	7.15
Switzerland Fr	4.54	4.32
US $	1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr	34.25	32.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

On other pages

PLA may start drive for younger dockworkers

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

The Port of London Authority, which has cooperated in increasing severance payments to £7,000 in order to make its operation more competitive, is considering a recruiting drive for fully fit men.

This irony arises from the serious imbalances in the nature of the labour force caused by a high proportion of men who are not fully fit and by an average age for London dockers of 47.

Although the question of recruiting some younger men to undertake the onerous work done by A category workers will have to be considered soon, the employers will still be seeking to run down the A-restricted and B men by the incentive of higher severance pay.

Letters explaining the terms of the new severance offer were sent out by the London Dock Labour Board to some 2,500 men eligible at the weekend.

At present the Board has authority to release only 570 men who will be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis.

When the 570 have been dealt with, it is likely that the London Board would seek authority for severance payments to be offered to another 300 men.

Employers hope that the increased severance of £7,000 a man, payable as a maximum to an employee who has served 20 years, will serve as a big incentive to the hard core of B men who are not medically fit to pursue the heavy dock work.

The incentives have been introduced to offset the provisions of the National Dock Labour Scheme which makes it virtually impossible for employers to declare men redundant.

For London and other British ports, the provisions have been a *constant complaint when* considerations of cost effectiveness with continental competitors are made.

On some occasions last year, London employers were paying up to 2,000 surplus men per week a full rate of pay

Ministerial meeting will end key final session on May 30-June 1

Rescue hope for North-South talks

By Melvin Westlake

After much delay it has now been decided to begin the key final session of the North-South Dialogue in Paris on April 26. It will end with a ministerial meeting on May 30 and June 1. Although these dates have not yet been publicly announced, officials now confirm them.

They have been decided by the two co-chairmen of the meeting—formally known as the Conference on International Economic Cooperation—Señor Manuel Perrer-Guerrero of Venezuela and Mr Allan MacEachen of Canada.

The conference, which was launched in December 1975, was deadlocked for much of last year. The ministerial meeting set for last December was postponed, partly in the hope that the new Administration of President Jimmy Carter would be more conciliatory than his predecessor, thereby helping to achieve some kind of compromise among the 19 representatives of the poor southern nations and the eight representatives of their rich northern neighbours.

The conference is being conducted through four commissions, dealing with energy, raw materials, finance and *development aid*. Each commission has two co-chairmen—one each from the rich and poor nations.

It has now been agreed that the 10 chairmen (including the two chairmen for the overall conference) will meet when the dialogue reconvenes on April 26. This will be followed by a series of meetings by the "contact" groups and, perhaps, a further meeting of senior officials in the week before the ministers gather in Paris.

The main point of contention at the conference during the last year has been the developing countries' demand for a moratorium on the huge debt repayments that many of the poor nations now face.

The rich states, particularly West Germany and the United States have been totally opposed to any generalized moratorium on debt payments, which they say would not be in the interests of the developing countries themselves because it would undermine their creditworthiness in the international money markets.

So far, the industrialized nations have only agreed to establish clear and codified rules for dealing with nations who cannot afford to pay their debts. However, some of the rich nations, like the Dutch, and to some extent Britain, are prepared to go beyond this position.

Most of the industrialized nations are keen that some kind of compromise should be reached for fear that a total breakdown of the coming final session could sour relations between the rich and poor.

Some of the rich nations now say that the debt problem should be seen in the wider context of the Third World's balance of payments problems, which might be dealt with by higher flows of financial resources from developed to developing states.

Electricians join pay study group at Leyland

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Senior shop stewards of the electricians' union at Leyland Cars voted in London yesterday to join the company's working group studying the problem of pay differentials. However, they added an important rider not to be bound by any decision that eroded differentials for skilled workers.

The stewards decided by 24 votes to one to take up the union's single seat on the working group, but made clear that they reserved the right to reject any findings that further impinged on the pay differentials of its members.

The electricians feel they should be rewarded because they face increasing demands on their skills, while other workers are to some extent being de-skilled through the introduction of new machinery.

They say they are entitled to differential advantages over some other skilled workers, including perhaps the toolmakers, because the continuing use of sophisticated machinery increasingly requires their expertise.

The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU) is strongly against any attempt to reach similar wage rates for both semi-skilled workers and craftsmen, a move already suggested by some less skilled unions.

However, it is in favour of reaching a deal on unified pay rates for its members throughout Leyland Cars—which by implication suggests unitary pay throughout the Leyland operation and, indeed, throughout all members of the union, with appropriate differential levels.

The EETPU has to some extent lost faith, as have other unions, in the merit of plant bargaining, since local managers have lost their autonomy because of pay restraint policies and national wage deals. The system has also created substantial pay anomalies.

Leyland Cars' shop stewards yesterday appointed Mr Bill Fitzpatrick, the convener of electrical stewards at the Longbridge plant, to the working group on differentials.

Referring to union participation arrangements in Leyland, he said: "It is a charade in its present form. The senior shop stewards and senior managers are nothing more than professional travellers".

Mr Roy Sanderson, national officer of the EETPU, said after the stewards' meeting: "If the working group reached conclusions unacceptable to us—such as not allowing for proper differentials for skilled men—we are making it clear that we would feel free to go our own way."

Building jobs boost of £13.5m

By Ronald Emler

The Construction Industry Training Board yesterday announced measures to maintain recruitment and training while the building industry goes through one of its deepest recessions since the war.

It will provide £13.5m to encourage employers to take on apprentices, which will be paid in grants of up to £1,700 per trainee taken on during the 1977-78 training year.

This is more than half of the total £24m the CITB will be giving in grants in the year.

The board will also offer grants of up to £750 per capita to employers taking on certain redundant apprentices and £300 for every unemployed trainee they take on who has completed six months CITB training course.

Mr Leslie Kemp, chairman of the Board, said that these measures were being taken to maintain a flow of trained people to supply the industry when the recession comes to an end.

After yesterday's board meeting the CITB confirmed its pledge of December not to raise the training levy payable by firms this year.

Mr Kemp said: "We approached the Government over the general position in the industry a few months ago, and as this year progresses we intend to see that the Government is kept very much aware of the alarming position which is now threatening the country over its apprentices."

Latest figures show that recruitment in the building sector of the industry fell from 13,093 apprentices in 1975 to 11,336 last year.

Investments increase in cars, coal and oil

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

New figures published by the Department of Industry show that in the last quarter of 1976 there was a large increase in investment in the car, coal and oil industries, but a fall in most other sectors.

The revised estimate of capital expenditure published yesterday shows that investment in the vehicles industry was 11 per cent compared to the third quarter, with a 19 per cent increase being recorded by coal and petroleum, which is increasingly affected by North Sea oil.

The expansion in these sectors, coupled with a 13 per cent growth in investment in the "other manufacturing" sector, more than counterbalanced bad performance by a whole range of industries, which included a 13 per cent fall for metal manufacturing. Spending on plant and machinery was up by 2 per cent and spending on new building fell 1 per cent.

During 1976 as a whole, total investment was £1,650m at 1970 prices, down 5 per cent from the 1975 level. The worst performance was in the textile, leather and clothing industries (down 27 per cent), and the paper printing and publishing industry, where investment fell 20 per cent.

There was a large drop of 15 per cent in spending on new building work for manufacturing industry. Investment in plant and machinery fell 4 per cent whilst spending on vehicles was up by 15 per cent.

In the distributive trades, capital spending fell about 4 per cent in 1976. The heaviest fall was again in construction work.

Separate figures issued yesterday showed that the increase in stocks of manufacturing industry in the fourth quarter of 1976 was £80m, twice the provisional estimate issued earlier.

There was a sharp increase in stocks of finished goods and work in progress, coupled with a rundown of stocks of raw materials.

Wholesalers' stocks are estimated to have risen by some £20m over the whole of 1976.

There was a substantial rundown of stocks held by dealers in coal and industrial materials and builders' merchants during the fourth quarter. Retailers' stocks rose by £20m in the last three months of the year, resulting in virtually no change over the year as a whole.

CAPITAL SPENDING

The following are the figures published today by the Department of Industry for the fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributing service and shipping industries and for the stocks all seasonally adjusted at 1970 prices:

		£m Investment Total	Mfg	Stocks
1972		4,293	1,739	−82
1973		4,731	1,872	888
1974		4,690	2,024	636
1975		4,040	1,737	−526
1974	Q1	1,171	510	−41
	Q2	1,161	502	259
	Q3	1,177	501	322
	Q4	1,180	511	96
1975	Q1	1,063	471	−52
	Q2	1,034	444	−226
	Q3	1,002	416	−225
	Q4	941	406	−23
1976	Q1	923	402	66
	Q2	910	408	−192
	Q3	983	418	35
	Q4	940	422	109

Japan-EEC talks on steel sales

Tokyo, March 24.—Japan and the European Economic Community will hold government level talks in Tokyo next Monday and Tuesday to discuss issues related to Japanese speciality steel exports to the EEC, the Japanese Foreign Ministry announced today.

The EEC delegation would be led by Mr Benedict Maynell, director general of the Community's foreign relations department.

Discussions would also be held on the speciality steel industrial situation in Britain.

In a Brussels consultation meeting last November, Japan agreed to hold down its 1977 steel shipments to the EEC to 1.4 million tonnes, down about 15 per cent from 1976.

The agreement had followed EEC concern over increases in Japanese steel exports to Europe, which the Community said was damaging the steel industries of member nations.—AP—Dow Jones.

Safety rules for North Sea rigs

Safety measures designed to protect offshore oil workers were announced by Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday.

From June 1, all offshore installations will have to have life-saving appliances including survival craft, life buoys and life jackets, alarms, plans showing where these appliances are located and public address systems.

Workers will be banned from any offshore structures that are not properly equipped by June 1 next year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Charges for carrying poultry by rail

From Mr David C. Bland

Sir, Last spring the British Rail Board threatened to end the conveyance of livestock, and because of pressure from the various organizations and people like ourselves the proposed scheme was left on the table with the promise that the board would at some future date meet representatives from the various livestock organizations to agree on an acceptable container that senders of livestock would be bound to use.

Since that date we have not been able to discover whether the board has taken any action in this matter.

We, like others, received a printed letter from British Railways stating, and I quote, "the board *have been obliged to notify the Price Commission that parcel charges will have to be increased* with effect from March 27, 1977". As we understood it, one has *to apply* for permission from the Prices Commission, not, as in this case, instruct them.

Further to this, we would like to know what arguments they propose to put forward to substantiate the increase and the reasons for the variance in such increases. We refer to small livestock being increased by 50 per cent as against general parcels of only 15 per cent.

For transporting poultry, we already pay 81 per cent more than we would be asked for general parcels. Moreover, poultry has to be picked up at the railway station: it is not delivered to the customer's door, as is a general parcel.

One can only see these proposed new charges as a devious way of stopping livestock by rail, therefore ignoring the Conveyance of Live Poultry Order 1919, which is still in force.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID C. BLAND,
Southern Puller Rearers,
"Hawthorns",
8 Fishbourne Road,
Chichester PO19 3HU.
March 16.

The Institute of Industrial Psychology's practical role

From Mr Michael Thomas

Sir, Your summary (Business Diary, March 17) of the decline and threatened fall of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology omits one important factor. NIIP research was once somewhat academic but by the 1960s NIIP staff were giving extremely practical advice to industry. Their techniques for diagnozing its human ills were unrivalled and the remedial changes they recommended saved many a company from grave losses through absenteeism, low morale, high labour turnover and disputes. Given the support *it deserved, the NIIP could have contributed much* to the discovery of a cure for the "English disease" and so to national prosperity.

Failure to use NIIP resources in this way was like failing to modernize plant while the economic sun still shone—a penny-wise, pound-foolish policy. The slump was inescapable, but with industry better equipped in both material and human terms, it could have been shallower and shorter. Industry can now plead poverty as an excuse for leaving the NIIP to die, forgetting that they too are sick and that there are all too few good physicians for industrial ills. No doubt it is too much to hope for a last-minute rescue but industry should at least be aware of what it is throwing away.

I should add that I have no personal stake in the NIIP. My interest dates from the long period during which I had the privilege to write for *The Times* on industrial relations and had exceptional opportunities to observe NIIP work and assess its value.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL THOMAS
68 Littleheath Road,
Selsdon,
South Croydon,
Surrey CR2 7SB.
March 19.

Conditions for trade union participation

From Mr W. R. Pickering

Sir, While one thoroughly agrees with Sir Iain Stewart (March 14) that one should not adopt a negative attitude, equally one must comment that employers or managers would not object to trade union representation on the board provided, as in the case of Fairfield Shipyard, the unions have in fact a significant stake in the equity of the business. While a 15 per cent shareholding does not guarantee a seat on the board, nevertheless, *shareholder* representation of this calibre would of course always be welcomed.

Further, Sir Iain notes that the executive board, as distinct from the policy board, invited three trade union conveners to attend as *observers*. This is a very far cry from the parity of representation as put forward by the majority of the Bullock report.

It is our experience that participation is essential in managing a company but this is not the same thing as parity of control on the board. The detailed arguments explaining this were presented in evidence to the Bullock committee by this institution. Sir Iain seems to be saying the same thing when he suggests that "Trade union involvement with executive management *without responsibility* for management decisions" was a key factor in stimulating new attitudes.

Yours sincerely,
W. R. PICKERING,
Immediate Past Chairman,
Institution of Works Managers,
45 Cardiff Road,
Luton,
Bedfordshire LU1 1RQ.
March 16.

Resisting the Arab boycott

From Mr Terence Prittie

Sir, This year's annual statement of Barclays Bank drew special attention to the attempted gross and unwarrantable intereference of the Arab Trade Boycott office in Damascus with the bank's normal business with Israel. The bank has boldly resisted this attempted interference and has refused to submit to pressure which is highly unethical and should be made illegal.

The action of Barclays Bank is the more striking, in that no firm or positive support can be expected from the British Government in resisting Arab boycott pressures. The Government deplores boycotts but, in the next breath, throws all responsibility onto British firms coming under pressure for making their own decisions, in the light of "commercial considerations" or "their own commercial interests".

Is it not perhaps time that our Government should give unequivocal and honest backing to firms, like Barclays, which resist totally unjustified pressure from a boycott office which tries to strangle their trade?

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE C. F. PRITTIE,
Britain & Israel,
11 Rodmarton Street,
London W1H 3FW.
March 16.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court in the Matters of: No. 00889 of 1977 AUTOFLEET SALES Limited, No. 00892 of 1977 INVAGLORA Limited, No. 00899 of 1977 MAXWELL INDUSTRIAL STAFF Limited, No. 00901 of 1977 MONTPELIER HOLDINGS Limited No. 00921 of 1977 TIME & TUNE NOVELTIES Limited, No. 00923 of 1977 TRUFORM POSTURE CHAIRS Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948.
Notice is hereby given that petitions for the WINDING UP of the above named Companies by the High Court of Justice were on the 14th day of March 1977 presented to the said Court by The Commissioners of Inland Revenue, of Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB, and that the said petitions are directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on the 25th day of April 1977, and any CREDITOR or CONTRIBUTORY of any of the said Companies desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on any of the said Petitions may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel, for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any CREDITOR or CONTRIBUTORY of any of the said Companies requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
ERIC MOSES, Solicitor of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LB.
NOTE: Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of any of the said Petitions must serve on or send by post to the above-named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 22nd day of April 1977.

COUNTER-INFLATION ACT 1973
(1973 c.9)
NOTICE
Under Section 6(2) and (3) (1973 c.9)
To: M. WRIGHT & SONS Limited, Queens Mills, Nr. Loughborough LE12 8BT.
The Price Commission, in exercise of their powers under section 6(2) and (3) of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973, hereby give you NOTICE requiring you to RESTRICT PRICES for the sale of goods in the course of business.
The said restriction requires you to reduce prices for the sale of goods (including wadding and narrow fabrics) by an average of 10 per cent until you have eliminated the excess over your reference level which arose in the period beginning on 31 April 1975 and ending on 31 December 1975, the gross excess being an amount of £15,000.
Dated 22nd March, 1977.
D. J. S. SEAMAN, on behalf of the Price Commission.

In the High Court of Justice In Bankruptcy No. 5707 of 1975.
In the Matter of CAMPOU, Gregory, of 8, Stonyle Gate, Westminster, London SW1—COMPANY DIRECTOR—formerly of 8 Lindley Crescent, London, SW3, formerly of 123 Fernsby Gardens Mews, London, SW1, formerly of 26-27 Queen's Gate Gardens, London, SW7, 5 Leverton Mews, London, SW... and 121 Water Gardens, London, W2, described in the Receiving Order as a Commodity Broker.
Order of Adjudication dated the 23rd day of November 1976.
JAMES TYE, Official Receiver, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LY.

In the High Court of Justice In Bankruptcy No. 1138 of 1974.
Re: BRAUCH, Ernest Wolfgang, of no present address and no present occupation, lately of and carrying on business at 50, Grosvenor Street, London, W1, as a COMPANY DIRECTOR and PROPERTY DEVELOPER, previously of La Colombelle, St. Peter Port, Guernsey.
Order of Adjudication dated the 5th day of November 1976.
D. J. THORNE, Official Receiver, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LY.

HESTON TECHNICAL SERVICES LIMITED
The Companies Act, 1948
I, Martin John Spencer, Chartered Accountant of Messrs. Stoy Hayward & Co., 34 Baker Street, London W1M 1DL, give notice that I was appointed LIQUIDATOR in the above matter on the 18th March, 1977. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
M. J. SPENCER, Liquidator.

In the Matter of INTERCORO TRADING COMPANY LTD.
By order of the High Court of Justice, dated 13th October, 1976 NEVILLE ECKLEY, F.C.A., of 56 Friends Road, Croydon, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above named company without a committee of inspection.
Dated 21st March, 1977.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00329 of 1977
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division In the Matter of ALUMINIUM CORPORATION, Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948
Notice is hereby given that a PETITION was on the 11th March 1977 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (a) the sanctioning of a Scheme of Arrangement and (b) the confirmation of the reduction of the Capital of the above-named Company from £489,750 to £382,713 by cancelling and extinguishing the issued £38,148 Ordinary Shares of 25p each of the said Company not beneficially owned by Alliance Aluminium Holdings Limited. The amount by which the issued Capital of the said Company is proposed to be reduced is to be applied in paying for shares of the said Company a like amount in accordance with the terms of the said Scheme of Arrangement.
And notice is further given that the said PETITION is directed to be heard before The Honourable Mr. Justice Oliver at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, W.C.2, on Monday the 4th day of April 1977.
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated the 24th day of March 1977
Nicholson, Graham & Jones,
16 Old Queen Street,
London EC2M 6AU
Solicitors for the above-named Company

PURSUANT TO THE TRUSTEE ACT 1923 (SECTION 27)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate of Barbara Mary Cooper late of "Beachcroft" Praa Sands, Penzance, Cornwall who died on the 20th March, 1976 and whose Will was proved in the Bristol District Probate Registry on the 4th March, 1977 by Muriel Cooper must send written particulars of such claims to the undersigned solicitors on or before the 30th May, 1977 after which day the deceased's assets will be distributed by the Executors having regard only to the claims of which written Notice should have then been received and will not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had Notice. And all persons indebted to the said estate are asked to pay their respective debts at once.
Dated this 23rd day of March, 1977.
GILL, AKASTER, LEEST & GLISSCHAN, Kent Chambers, Milehouse, Devonport, Plymouth.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1914 AND 1926
In the Bournemouth County Court In Bankruptcy No. 54 of 1977
PHILIP HOLLIS, Unemployed Barmaid Dominion Director of 20 Richard Flats, Grove Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, lately carrying on business as Tyrrell's Field Road, London, E1 as a CLOTHING MANUFACTURER.
RECEIVING ORDER MADE 23 February, 1977.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETING Tuesday 19 April, 1977, at 11.00 am at the Official Receiver's Office, Burlington Arcade, Bournemouth BH1 2JS.
DATE of PUBLIC EXAMINATION Thursday, 26 May, 1977, at 10.30 am at The Bournemouth County Court, The Law Courts, Stafford Road, Bournemouth.
NOTE—All debts due to the estate should be paid to me and all claims against the Estate should be made to me.
Dated 23 March, 1977. R. F. SAVAGE, Official Receiver, Burlington Arcade, Bournemouth BH1 2JS.

In the Matter of SINAITOS (TIMBER PRESERVATION) Limited
By order of the High Court of Justice dated the 21st day of December, 1976, Mr. BI NG CHARLES TREFF of 2, Broad Street Place, London EC2M 7HP, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company without a Committee of Inspection.
Dated this 18th day of March, 1977.

In the Matter of LEGAL FINANCE Ltd.
By Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 17th February, 1977 NEVILLE ECKLEY, F.C.A., of 56 Friends Road, Croydon, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above named company without a Committee of Inspection.
Dated 21st March 1977.

In the Matter of OFFICE PLASTERING COMPANY LTD.
By order of the High Court of Justice dated the 7th January, 1977 NEVILLE ECKLEY, F.C.A., of 56 Friends Road, Croydon, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above named company with a committee of inspection.
Dated 21st March, 1977.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968
The Church Commissioners have prepared a DRAFT PASTORAL SCHEME which includes provision for making a declaration of redundancy in respect of the church of Holy Trinity, a chapel of ease in the parish of Great Marlow, in the diocese of Oxford. A copy of the draft scheme may be obtained from the Commissioners or may be inspected at the parish church of the parish of Great Marlow, and the church of Holy Trinity.
Any representations should be sent in writing to the Church Commissioners, 1 Millbank SW1P 3JZ, to reach them not later than 22 April, 1977.

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968
The Church Commissioners have PREPARED a DRAFT REDUNDANCY SCHEME which contains provision for the appropriation to use as a garden store of the redundant church of St Nicholas, Spanby in the diocese of Lincoln.
A copy of the draft Scheme may be obtained from the Commissioners or may be inspected at the Vicarage, Bourne, Lincolnshire.
Any representations should be sent in writing to the Commissioners at 1 Millbank, London, SW1P 3JZ to reach them not later than 29th April, 1977.

H.M. LAND REGISTRY
LOST CERTIFICATE
It is proposed to issue a new Certificate to replace the one described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate or claiming to the issue of a new one should at once notify H.M. Land Registry, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PH.
Charge Certificate. Leasehold title No. LN 22444. 2 Fore Street, London, EC2.
Proprietor: Unitholders Provident Assurance Ltd.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities—The John Mortimer Convalescent Home, National Church.
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a SCHEME for the charity which will vary the objects. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from Hunt (T.) 222736-1111, at 14 Ryder Street, London SW1Y 6AH. Objections and suggestions must be sent to them within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity—The Chadkirk Trust
The Charity Commissioners have made a SCHEME for this charity. Copies can be obtained from them at 14 Ryder Street, London SW1Y 6AH (ref. 220613-2-111).

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, Birmingham, West Midlands.
Scheme under section 19 of the Charities Act, 1960, for the administration of the Charity.
Reference: 328089 T.L.
The Charity Commissioners PROPOSE to SETTLE a SCHEME for submission to the Home Secretary for this and other purposes. Copies of the proposed Scheme will be supplied on written request to the Charity Commission, Graeme House, Derby Square, Liverpool L2 7SB, quoting the reference above, and may also be seen at that address.
Objections and suggestions must be sent to the Commissioners within one month from today.

هكذا من الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Prudential sets the standard

s the first sizable investment ust to whet the appetite of pension fund, the eventual rms for Standard Tust have me to be viewed as the easuring rod with which to dge the attractiveness of the st of the trust sector.

And on those grounds, Prutential Assurance's generous rms show that there is very tle chance for other prospecve bidders getting hold of od quality investment trusts the cheap.

In one sense, of course, the ct that the Prudential is takg Standard on as a going conrn means that it will avoid e capital gains tax and dollar emium surrender complicans that the British Rail Pen on Funds threw out in justing their terms.

And, in fact, stripping these it the Prudential's terms worth 7p a Standard share with its iares down 8p to 128p yesterey are some 7p above the net iset value; but even without iis the terms are only some per cent under consolidated et assets.

For the rest, preference areholders are being offered ly 3p more than the Britrailen offer even though they will se their voting rights while ebenture holders come off orst being left high and dry ithout an offer.

Meanwhile, the Prudential is ot trying to hide the fact that ts move for Standard is largely pportunistic and is tantamount o a rights. Its capital base annot grow fast enough to support the 30 per cent rise in premium income and though its olvency margin is not under the same sort of pressure as Commercial Union, who this week made a *similar* move for Estates House, the takeover will improve this by perhaps 10 points to around 50 per cent.

As it is, yesterday's underwriting of Prudential shares at 120p looks finely pitched after the 8p fall in the shares and the fact there is almost 6p of dividend in the shares at the moment.

Mr Edgar Bowring, chairman of C. T. Bowring: property write-offs.

Sime Darby

Begging questions

nterim figures from Sime Darby Holdings were a disppointment and brought some onfusion as well. Some writeffs had been expected, but the elow-the-line adjustments in act showed up a credit.

Sime's rough career of recent ears, culminating in the boardoom split last year and the ltimate departure of Mr Jim ywater, the then chairman, rom the board, has not helped he group's image, even if it is ne of the foremost Far East raders.

Since Sime Darby is, to all ntents and purposes, now a ocal Malaysian stock, the ondon Market tends to follow ather than lead the FarEastin ssessing the rating given to the hares. Hence, there is conderable interest in when the ompany will be rehabilitated ocally given that, in Far Eastern terms, it is trailing ome of its inferiors.

If there was some disappointment in the figures, they were handsomely better—net attriutable profits were 46 per cent up in Malaysian terms and 77 per cent up in sterling, partly helped by an amelioration of he tax charge.

Consolidated Plantations—in which there is considerable United Kingdom interest on a hange of domicile—increased et profits by 29 per cent (57 per cent in sterling), with the ise in the rubber, cocoa and palm kernal prices, and the outlook for the year is of a higher profit increase.

Tractors has benefited from ncrease in logging activity and China Engineers is performing trongly.

Even with the prospect of a trong year, renewed Far Eastern interest will be the key factor for the share price, which drifted off 3p to 102p yesterday.

Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)
Capitalization £196m —
Sales £143m (£127m)
Pre-tax profits £17.2m (£13.3m)
Dividend gross 1.1p* (0.85p)
* *Subject to Malaysian tax*

C. T. Bowring

Broking gains

Following on from the sharp recovery in 1975, C. T. Bowring has produced an impressive set of 1976 figures, pushing up group profits by just over 50 per cent if exchange gains of some £3m are stripped out. Not surprisingly, given the sector's background and Bowring's strong position in reinsurance, insurance broking was the best performer with profits before central charges up by 65 per cent to £17.1m.

But Bowmaker, only two years ago a member of the Bank of England's lifeboat scheme, has continued to move strongly ahead on the back of a conservatively managed though expanding book. Profits here were around 50 per cent higher at nearly £7m.

Indeed, the only disappointment is property, where there was another loss of £900,000. On the property side, too, Bowring has written down £2.57m on certain properties (though mainly this relates to its own, now abandoned, plans for a development on the South Bank). These, and a full provision against Rhodesian book assets, have meant total provisions of £3.2m.

So far as the current year is concerned Bowring has started well, though growth is not going to be quite so dramatic. Certainly, with sterling stronger, the insurance broking side may miss some of the froth seen recently, but there is scope for something better from Bowmaker while operations like Singer & Friedlander, trading and shipping can obviously expect to benefit if general economic activity picks up. A share, then, that at 87p could go further were it not for a below average yield of 4.6 per cent of a dividend now covered 4½ times.

Final: 1976 (1975)
Capitalization £91.5m —
Turnover £945m (£683m)
Pre-tax profits £25.8m (£15.4m)
Earnings per share 11.7p (6.5p)
Dividend gross 4.059p (3.5378p)

Exchequer stock

Watch the stags

The new Exchequer stock was duly snapped up yesterday and, despite the late afternoon jolt delivered to the gilt market by the Bank's move to force the discount market to borrow a "large" amount at MLR for seven days, a premium of around half a point seems to be the common expectation for today's opening.

How the stock trades after that will, of course, depend on how many "stags" decide that the premium is not, in fact, great enough to risk running the stock through to the Budget speech. But if they do make for the exit before the weekend, the basis of allotment does suggest that there may well be some larger funds which will want to top up their initial allocations.

In fact, it seems just possible that yesterday's slight jolt to the market may serve the very desirable purpose of shaking out most of the speculative money at a fairly early stage.

Monopolies

UKO alone

The jubilation at UKO International today now the Monopolies Commission has secured its independence from Pilkington, should far outweigh the disappointment in the other camp. Pilkington has lost a prize which would have ended the continuing worry of the presence of a monopoly buyer from one of its subsidiaries.

But the scale of the problem is fairly small, although UKO takes between 30 and 50 per cent of the output of its glass lens blank company, Chance Pilkington, the total sales from Chance Pilkington are less than 3 per cent of the group.

UKO International, meanwhile, is on a rising profits trend and at the halfway stage was well in line for its forecast of £4.1m for the year.

The serious worry over its future must be that Pilkington, after all, was right, and that technical development would have been faster within a merged group. The existence of a dissenting note in the Monopolies Commission report from an experienced industrialist to that effect is disquieting.

But UKO's answer is its technical know-how agreement with the American group, Bausch and Lomb, who owns 11 per cent of its shares, but Pilkington has huge financial muscle compared to UKO and proved in evidence to the commission that it had identified opthalmic lenses as an area in which it would like to expand.

But for the present UKO looks, on Pilkington's own analysis, an efficient growth company. It can move into plastic lenses should demand prove sufficient and it need have few worries on its main source of supply (at Pilkington) for the time being, particularly as one of its arguments to the commission was that it could obtain some supplies cheaper elsewhere.

If the original offer had been reinstituted today it would be worth 205p per share. It was therefore, illogical to knock 10p off UKO's price to 150p yesterday where the yield is a generous 8.2 per cent.

Hard on the heels of the Inchcape success in the Euromarkets, EMI and its bankers have also managed to increase the amount the company is to raise beyond the original projections. In this case, the size of the new loan goes up from $30m to $50m, apparently in response to good demand from Switzerland and the Middle East. The 9½ per cent coupon—the price is still to be fixed—may still reflect the cautious attitude to British companies, but the completion of large scale medium-term funding (average life 10 years), coupled with the Development Securities' "rights" issue, adds up to a fairly radical and painless transformation of EMI's balance sheet in a very short time-span.

Concern about oil prices conceals the real crisis of energy supplies

In late 1973, Opec shocked the world by decreeing a sudden and considerable increase in the price of crude oil. In late 1976, at a meeting held at Doha, Opec members shocked one another by failing to agree on the level of a price increase. The price of oil always seems to be at the forefront of the stage, stealing all the limelight.

I shall contend that the oil crisis—or the oil revolution—is essentially an issue of energy supplies. The 1973 price increase was the manifestation of a fundamental supply problem. To interpret it, as most consumers do, as artificial price rigging by a powerful cartel misses the point. To rejoice at the split between militants and moderates within Opec may be short-sighted.

One may ask: why an oil supply problem when there is so much petroleum in the world? The answer is that oil is a natural resource and that the supply problem has more to do with producers' perceptions about future scarcities than with reserves.

What happened in 1973 is revealing in this respect. There were supply difficulties of an ordinary kind: a buoyant demand exerting short-term pressures on existing productive capacity. These pressures were sufficient by themselves to bring about a significant but not necessarily durable price increase. The interesting phenomenon, however, was of a different type. Sometime between 1972 and 1973 the oil industry changed radically its outlook on future supplies.

Throughout the 1950s, the 1960s and even in the first years of the 1970s, most observers believed that the oil industry was characterized by a chronic surplus. The "supply overhang" was seen as a permanent threat to prices and profitability. Opec was established in 1960 in order to check a downward slide in the oil prices.

The notion that oil is in plentiful supply goes back to the huge discoveries made in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait just before and soon after the Second World War. These discoveries induced a long era of growth in petroleum production. Smaller, and yet important finds were made throughout the 1960s in Libya, Abu Dhabi, and Nigeria. Additions to oil reserves hit the imagination when they are made through spectacular discoveries at discrete intervals.

By contrast, the fact that production depletes reserves continually may go unnoticed for a while. Yet, between 1948 and 1973 world oil output was growing at a high and steady rate almost without interruption. The implications of growing production over the future balance between supply and demand were not immediately perceived.

In 1968, world demand for oil increased by three million barrels a day (mbd), compared with the discovery of Libya which had just added to productive capacity a maximum of 3 mbd. To maintain the reserve/production ratio constant in 1968, a net addition to reserves equivalent to the discovery of a new Libya *a year* would have been needed. In 1973, world demand for oil increased by 4.2 mbd. Had that trend continued, demand would have increased by 5.6 mbd in 1977: almost the equivalent of two new Libyas a year.

By 1972 some observers began to think that the implied rate of discovery was unattainable. Nothing on the required scale was in sight. This realization, precisely, is the oil crisis. It is a new perception about the future: oil will be scarcer in 10 or 15 years than we thought hitherto. And this perception necessarily rebounds on prices and perhaps on the willingness to supply.

The price increase signalled to the world that something was going wrong in the relationship between the growth of demand for oil and the expected rate of discoveries. Was the signal understood? Some thought that it would provide immediately the remedy through the operations of the market mechanism; higher prices discourage demand and increase supply. Some chose to interpret the price increase as a wrongful use of power by Opec. And Opec itself has done its best to focus attention on prices as a symbol of power.

The trouble is that the energy crisis is a structural problem. In part, this means that supply and demand do not respond fast enough to price adjustments. The high price of oil is not bringing on stream large supplies from new sources of energy.

A structural problem calls for a solution which by-passes the market for a while. The lead-in times involved in increasing the long-term supply of energy have to be bridged in one way or another. To advocate this type of solution does not negate the role of the market but provides the necessary breathing space for difficult and slow adjustments in demand and supply.

Alas, we are all far too obsessed with prices to think about structural bridges. The industrialized countries behave as if they believe that pressures on Opec to moderate price increases will solve "the energy crisis". In that respect they may think of Doha as a partial success. Let us examine, however, what Doha was all about.

Saudi Arabia responded to the demands of its special relationship with the United States and took a stand at the Opec meeting which produced this absurd two-tier price system. Saudi Arabia motives are *not* to be sought in its rivalry with Iran. The stakes for Saudi Arabia are the Arab-Israeli conflict and the valuable American alliance. But the course of action taken under tremendous United States pressure endangers stability in a sensi-

I think that Opec will soon reach a compromise. Yet imagine, for the sake of argument, that there is no accord, that the two-tier price system sticks for a while. The consequences are clear: Saudi Arabia would soon find itself selling 12 mbd of oil and piling up some US$30,000m of surplus funds a year, while Iran would be selling less than 4 mbd and running a deficit of US$5,000m to US$6,000m. I do not want to spell out the explosive implications of such a scenario.

One begins to wonder: in what sense was Doha a Western success? Opec may have lost some of its autonomy in determining prices because it is exposed to powerful political pressures. But since 1973 the industrialized world has been losing precious time in the search for a solution that would help economic recovery.

The solution, I am afraid, involves some form of cooperation with Opec. Perhaps a world energy plan that would enable Opec to supply more oil today against some stake in future sources of energy. The task is difficult, the political will is lacking, and the chances of success of such an approach are less than bright.

The cost of failure, however, is very high. It is difficult to visualize sustained economic recovery in the world in the next 10 years unless something is done on the energy front.

The author is a Fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford.

Robert Mabro

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent, on beating a path to invention

Winning tips for would-be inventors

A question for students of technology: what is the classical response to innovation?

The answer, according to Professor Meredith Thring, of Queen Mary College, London, and Professor Eric Laithwaite, of Imperial College, London, comes in three stages.

First, it will not work.
Secondly, if it does work it will not be economical.
Thirdly, I thought of it first.

Moreover, they suggest in a new book* on the process of invention, the chances of inventions reaching the third stage are even smaller now than they were in the nineteenth century.

The dice are loaded against the inventor—by, for example, the inertia of the establishment and ill-suited education—but, with unconventional thinking and a degree of stubbornness, success is still possible.

And the individual inventor, it is said, is at an even greater disadvantage to large organizations, because only the large groups can afford to develop new ideas. But at least the individual can afford to ignore immediate commercial pressures and try to invent something which he or she believes will be genuinely beneficial.

What are the main principles of invention? Professor Thring's list includes the following five points.

1
Solutions may appear to contradict the laws of science because the problems have been wrongly formulated; aim at a realistic formulation.

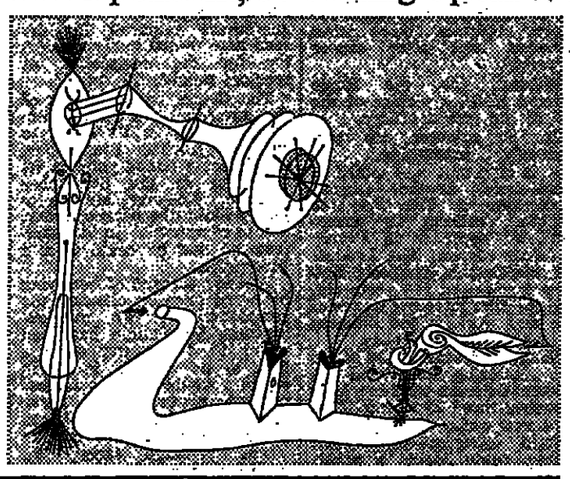
2
Start with a human need and try to invent a better solution to it, rather than try to find a use for some natural phenomenon. A worthwhile use has still not been found for the silicone "bouncing putty", a novelty in the 1950s.

3
Truly inventive ideas cannot be budgeted for, but when an idea does show promise its development must be carefully programmed, budgeted and continuously reviewed.

4
The "divide and conquer" principle is important in moving towards the inventive moment; concentrate on the real centre of gravity of the problem.

5
Finally, after the inventive moment, apply the principle of successive approximation; keep as many options open as possible as the various stages of engineering and then economics are tackled.

Thinking of materials in need of improvement is a good exercise for inventors, says Professor Laithwaite, for it stretches the mind at least as much as finding the solution to many problems.



Apparatus for the magnetic treatment of plants from a watercolour by Paul Klee. The original is in the possession of the Germanic Museum, Harvard University.

For example, must windows be made of glass? Transparent plastic scratches too easily; pure quartz is far too expensive. Yet one can imagine a substance like glass which has the strength of steel.

History shows that the "obvious" answers to questions can change with time. Must ships be made of wood? Must shoes be made of leather? Must tyres be made of rubber? Must high-power electrical transmission lines be made of copper? In all cases, the answer was yes (then) and no (now).

Inventive capacity has been inhibited if not positively retarded, Professor Laithwaite argues, by the traditional stereotyped teaching of science in schools. Why not be honest and teach such fundamental concepts as symmetry and analogy?

Engineering can learn much from nature study, Professor Laithwaite points out, from ball-and-socket joints (animal bone structures) to the underslung vehicle chassis (insects).

We are proud of our high-tensile steel, he comments, but it is inferior in strength/weight ratio to the silk of a spider's web.

We believe we are good at the accurate measurement of physical quantities—"yet when we make a dark room and need proof of its total darkness we resort to the use of a vegetable to detect the odd photon that gets through". (This "vegetable" is a sporangiophore which turns its "flower" towards the light "leak" in a matter of hours.)

The glue with which barnacles bind themselves to surfaces, the glow-worm's light which is not associated with any temperature rise, the ability of bedbugs and snakes to detect temperature differences of 0.001°C, all are examples of phenomena which scientists do not understand.

Serious students of technology wil gain much from the final section of the Thring/Laithwaite book, in which they describe the development of some of their own inventions.

Those of Professor Thring include a number of walking machines, some of which can climb stairs (aimed at powered, stair-climbing wheelchairs).

Professor Laithwaite is well known for his work on linear induction motors and electromagnetic levitation. His step-by-step descriptions, in some technical detail, illustrate well the diversity of innovation.

One invention was based on observation and experience; another was induced by curiosity. One was "born of necessity"; another showed theory coming before practice (which is rare). And, most difficult of all, there is a case where the observer noticed the *absence* of something that should have been present (noticing the *presence* of something new and extra is rather easier).

Above all, the experience of these two innovators illustrates the unpredictability of invention, its excitment, the frequent diversions from the original aim, and the importance of personal determination to the point of stubbornness.

**How to Invent* by M. W. Thring and E. R. Laithwaite, Macmillan Press (£7.95 hardback, £3.95 paperback).

Business Diary: Commission and omission • Just William

The threat of the new United States Secretary of the Treasury, Michael Blumenthal, to bring in a code of ethics on business bribes seems wonderfully to have concentrated the minds of the executive board of the Paris-based International Chamber of Commerce.

Yesterday the ICC rushed out the overdue draft report and code on corrupt payments prepared by its "Commission of Eminent Persons".

The commission was established a year ago in the wake of the Lockheed scandal. Its chairman is Lord Shawcross, chairman of the City Panel on Takeovers and Mergers and an ICC director. He had hoped to publish a draft report by the beginning of this year.

That this proved impossible was unfortunate for the ICC and for the principle of self-regulation for which Lord Shawcross has come to stand. The American presidential election intervened, sending in Jimmy Carter an apostle of business probity to the White House.

Michael Blumenthal.

Lord Shawcross.

Blumenthal, Carter's appointee, threatened a government-inspired code last week "because the business community has failed to come up with its own code of ethics against bribes".

The ICC executive are now somewhat belatedly waving their draft report and code in the hope of persuading the new Treasury Secretary to find another target for his reformist zeal. Their decision was taken after Lord Shawcross addressed them on Wednesday.

His commission recommends stricter disclosure requirements, stronger enforcement of existing laws, more international cooperation and agreements between competing enterprises.

Oh, brother

The brothers Nordhaus are causing chaos in the already confused world of Washington politics and in the arena of international economics beyond.

Robert Nordhaus works at the White House as a member of President Carter's special energy team, while brother William has until recently been a distinguished Professor of Economics at Yale University. William was recently chosen to become a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and he swiftly packed his bags, moved to Washington and installed himself in a plush government office.

William Nordhaus is to have special responsibilities on the Council for International Economic Affairs and his extremely senior position depends upon confirmation by the United States Senate—and this is where the problems started. The White House personnel office got the brothers confused and thus Robert, rather than William, was entered for confirmation for the top economic position.

It was only just before Senate confirmation hearings were to start that the mix-up was discovered. A lot of forms had to be swiftly completed, but all finally went well and William is now confirmed.

At least he can console himself that his papers were not simply lost, as has been the case for a number of other top officials, who still have to be confirmed in their jobs because the White House personnel office seems overwhelmed by the vast number of new government appointments it has to process.

Chuck de Bedts, vice-president commercial marketing of the Lockheed-California Company tells how an American colleague rang his number at the Lockheed headquarters in Burbank to be told: "I'm sorry, but Mr de Bedts has gone to the United Kingdom." "My God", said the voice at the other end of the line. "And I didn't even know he'd been ill."

Up and up

The report made a congenial first task for Maurice Ashill, who took over as MCA executive director in October when Robin McGarel-Groves moved to the Scientific Instrument Makers' Association.

Straws in the wind? Michael Hicks-Beach, chairman of the Management Consultants' Association, presented the most cheerful annual report for years in London yesterday.

Members companies' earnings were up 14.5 per cent in 1976 to £31.3m, reflecting an increase of 24 per cent to £11.3m, overseas and 8.5 per cent to £20m at home.

Hicks-Beach says the outlook is even brighter than these figures show, for after three or four years of slump a "quite remarkable" number of inquiries and new business started coming in at the end of 1976.

MCA members' earnings are a "fair" indicator of business confidence, which usually take about six months to work through, he adds.

Hicks-Beach is chairman of P-E Consultants. His vice-chairman is Cyril Brown, managing partner of Annan Impney Morrish. He reckons that profitability is now no longer "a serious problem" for MCA members, about two-thirds of British consultants.

At home, clients have been keenest for advice on control of cash resources. Abroad it's been either finance and administration or economics and environmental studies.

To Hicks-Beach's surprise and chagrin there has been a decline in home demand for advice on marketing, sales and distribution—could it be that MCA members' self-marketing was at fault?

Victoria Wine, the Allied Breweries retailer, has been delving into its archives and found that in 1887, 1897 and 1935, the three royal jubilee years since its founding in 1865, Chancellors helped the public celebrate by leaving the levels of drink duties unchanged. The company has also discovered that when it was founded a bottle of scotch cost the princely sum of (what is now) 9p.

EEC seeking more deals for solar energy research in Britain

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Fourteen companies, universities and other research centres in the United Kingdom have been awarded or are negotiating solar energy research contracts with the European Commission, and the Commission has now invited bids for further work in this area. Companies already involved include Plessey, Ferranti and International Research & Development.

Details of solar energy research projects were given yesterday by Mr Alan Wise of the Department of the Environment, who is chairman of the Government's interdepartmental steering committee on solar energy research and development.

Speaking at a conference at the Building Research Establishment, Garston, Watford, Mr Wise disclosed that the European Commission's spending on solar R & D is now running at an average of more than £2m a year. This includes £1.7m on joint projects with individual organizations which themselves are matching this level of spending.

In the United Kingdom Mr Wise revealed, government departments are now spending just under £1.5m a year on solar energy R & D. About £900,000 of this is coming from the Department of Energy, mainly for domestic water and space heating systems; and £230,000 from the Department of Industry, mainly for photovoltaic solar cells.

The European Commission has now invited proposals for further research projects for its solar energy programme, which is expected to cost about £7.3m over four years. For the next stage of this programme the Commission is seeking heat storage projects for domestic solar systems.

In choosing projects, the *Commission says, the criteria* will include the technical competence of the proposer, the size of his financial contribution to the total cost, the value to the community of the proposed research, the degree of *innovation, the expected* economic advantages and the technical feasibility.

A proposal for a combined solar/gas turbine power plant which would continuously develop one megawatt of electricity was described at the conference by Mr Albert Jubb, of the Industrial & Marine Division of Rolls Royce.

This would reflect solar energy from a five-acre area of mirrors on to a heat receiver mounted on a 200ft high tower. The heat would be collected by compressed air and transferred to a heat store consisting of 600 tons of rock. A gas turbine based on the Dart aero engine would compress the air and generate the electricity. Such a plant would save about £100,000 *of fossil fuels annually.*

BL updates Scammell to win army contracts

By Clifford Webb

British Leyland's profitable Truck and Bus Company is reorganizing its Scammell Motors plant at Watford to try to capture a bigger share of military vehicle contracts now being prepared by the Ministry of Defence and Nato.

The intention is to convert Scammell from its traditional role as a manufacturer of super-heavy trucks, such as the 240-ton gross weight Constructor and Contractor used by specialist hauliers like Pickford, to become the military and off-highway vehicle centre for the whole group.

As a first step Scammell had to pass a rigorous inspection by a ministry team. After a four-day visit they are now recommending it for registration to supply vehicles made to the exacting 05-21 standard set by the ministry and also used by *Nato.*

Scammell is the only Leyland plant to meet this, the highest of the ministry's three vehicle standards.

A Leyland spokesman said yesterday: "The go-ahead for the new standard means that the quality of Scammell products *is* officially recognized and the plant can now tender for the production of new generation military vehicles."

Until 1980 Scammell will update its entire civil and military range. Over the past six months the engineering, manufacturing *and supply departments have* also been planning to bring in new models.

This is a further stage in the *decentralization* of Leyland Truck and Bus which was announced recently. Five divisions have been created: heavy vehicles, light/medium, passenger carrying, parts department and engineering services.

The first four are now operating as separate-profit centres. *Scammell is a member of the* heavy vehicle division but because of its specialist role will be *an individual profit centre within that division.*

Directors urge Chancellor to cut top income tax rate to 50 pc

By Patricia Tisdall

A plea for the Chancellor to create new rewards for success in business in his forthcoming Budget was made by Mr Jan Hildreth, director general of the *Institute of Directors*, yesterday.

The institute recommends a reduction of the top rate of income tax to 50 per cent. It has told Mr Healey that this would have the "largest single impact of any measure the Government is capable of taking to regenerate the economy".

The institute argues that the short-term tax cost of the measure would be quickly returned out of the growth and prosperity which would follow. Easing the top income tax rate would raise the businessman's morale and restore to him a fair share of his own hard won earnings.

Successful economies had always been those in which individual reward was most obviously attached to individual succes. In such economies, innovation—*the source of most new* wealth—had been widespread in both large and small businesses.

Success here had borne a penalty for far too long. That must now change, the institute says. We must set about encouraging those with the special skills needed to create and expand a business to extend themselves *to the limits of their* natural inclinations and beyond. In addition the IOD asks the Government to exercise continued pay restraint. The next phase of pay restraint, it says, should aim at the minimum possible overall increase in money income, while permitting the *maximum possible flexibility* to correct distortions.

With or without pay restraint, however, growth and general prosperity would not be secured simply by cutting back unproductive spending to the level which producers of good and services could support.

Engineering orders still at depressed levels

By Edward Townsend

Hopes of a recovery in orders and sales for Britain's engineering industries have been dimmed by the latest official *figures showing that* the inflow of new orders in the final quarter of last year fell by 0.5 per cent.

According *to today's issue* of *Trade and Industry* magazine, home and export sales remained flat at the end of the year. Poor December figures *helped* to depress the level of domestic orders and the magazine says that only later information will reveal whether this represents a temporary *setback* in a variable monthly statistical series.

Slowly rising export orders have helped to alleviate the decline, however, with a rise in the trend of 1 per cent in the final quarter.

Total orders on hand at the *end of 1976* were only 1 per cent higher than the low level reached in the third quarter but *Trade and Industry* again stressed that "it is by no means certain that this is the beginning of a sustained recovery".

In fact, the figure conceals a further dip in home orders on hand. Domestic order books at the end of the year were at their lowest since 1970 *and less than three-fifths* of their size at the peak in 1974.

Brussels extends watch on imports of zip-fasteners

Brussels, March 24.—The *European Commission says it* will keep imports of Japanese zip-fasteners under a "very close watch" as these shipments have a substantial impact on the Community market.

The Commission disclosed that it extended until June its surveillance, introduced last year, *of zip-fastener imports* from Japan, a further extension of the surveillance system will be considered if the situation remains unchanged.

The Commission statement came in reply to a question from a group of Community parliament deputies who wanted to know what the authorities were doing about "*the wholesale destruction* of jobs by high-pressure Japanese competition aimed at the European zip-fastener industry".

The deputies also *wanted to* know whether the almost exclusive Japanese zip-fastener exporter, Yoshida Kogyo K. K. is not misusing legislation on origin which, they said, made it possible to move goods freely by manipulating the designation of origin.

The deputies *also suggested* that the Commission should see to it that all zip-fasteners were imported at the Yoshida/Japan to Yoshida/Europe transfer price.

MPs to compare technologies

By Ronald Emler

Technology used by Japanese companies manufacturing in Britain will be examined by the Commons select committee on Science and Technology. This was announced yesterday by *Mr Arthur Palmer, MP, the* chairman, at a press conference reporting on the committee's visit this month to Japan.

Committee members said they had been impressed by Japanese harnessing of technological developments to productivity and by the Japanese *devotion to quality control.*

Mr Palmer said they would look at the British plants of Sony and Nippon Seiko KK to make comparisons with their operations in Japan.

Industrial films

Irony and humour to mark Grierson Day

The sponsored film community views *somewhat wryly the* irony of its position in the film industry at large. Their footage, paid for by sponsors who want value for their money, is very substantial, in the aggregate well able to stand alongside features on the one hand and commercials on the other. Their competence, as variable as that of any other body of workers, will happily stand comparison with that of their film neighbours.

Yet even on last month's Grierson Day, launching a fund to promote outstanding short and documentary films, little or nothing was heard of the sponsored area of short films. Irony indeed, remembering that the films Grierson made were *in this country sponsored* industrial films and in Canada sponsored government films.

Fortunately there is little sign that the filmmakers are discouraged: the films are still commissioned in very large numbers, and on a bewildering diversity of subjects. An area that last year included Players' *The Speed Sailors*, a brilliant picture of the World Speed Sailing Record Week, BP's *Proteins*, explaining clearly what they are and what they do, and the de Beers *World of Diamonds*, showing us London in its unfamiliar role as the centre of the diamond selling organization, to name but three, is not lacking in subject interest.

A group of recent productions demonstrates afresh the range of topics that the medium covers. It is of course wider than industry and commerce: witness *So we're different but* . . . (29 minutes) from the Department of Education and Science, *showing how special* schools help the physically handicapped (message—"don't treat us as if we were mentally defective"); and *Who cares?* (20 minutes) from the National Society for Cancer Relief, on the society's splendid work for cancer sufferers (three other charities look after cancer research).

Witness, too, the Home Office's *HMP*, a picture of the life of the prison officer,

Its 50 minutes are continuously interesting,

It is of course also aimed at recruitment. Another recruitment film is *The Pru* (20 minutes), making an unconventional approach to a very different service. The Prudential building in London's Holborn is close on 100 years old, and the film intercuts scenes of life and work in the building in the past with today.

Shell, *representing one of the* few remaining links with the original Grierson tradition, have launched three 20 minute films in a new series on Regions of Britain, complementing their county guide books: a purely subjective view pots *The Peak District* ahead of *The Cotswolds* and *The Essex Coast*,

Finally there is *Let's sleep on it*, a 28 minute sales training film from Myer's, who make beds, and who have a refreshing sense of humour.

Eynon Smart

Sweden split over reactor policy

Stockholm, March 24.—Sweden's Government today *deferred for a week a decision* on whether to allow completion of two more nuclear reactors, an issue which threatens to break up the three-party coalition and force a general election only six months after the last one.

The Government had been expected to decide today whether to put up state credit guarantees required by the semi-state owned nuclear industry for the *completion of* reactors number 11 and 12.

The Centre party, largest of the governing partners, is uncompromising in its stand to cut the nuclear programme, which was a strong point of its campaign in the September election. However, Mr Thorbjorn *Falldin*, the party's leader, had to compromise on his manifesto so that he could form a government

Already accused of betraying his word once by allowing the completion of two previous reactors, Mr Falldin has been trying hard to water down a Bill, to be enacted in April, which would stop further nuclear plants unless harsh terms for waste disposal and security measures are met.

The problem facing the coalition is whether to refuse the guarantees and leave the nuclear firms to stand the risk of losing about 3,000m Kronor (£430m) and hundreds of jobs or allow the guarantees and save the jobs (much needed in the present economic situation) at the risk of completely compromising the Centre policy.—Reuter.

Nissan to import UK sheet cloth

Tokyo, March 24.—Nissan Motor Company said it plans to *import sheet cloth* from Britain's Jersey Kapwood Ltd for Datsun cars to be exported to Europe.

It said the volume of sheet cloth imports and date of delivery have not yet been decided, but it plans to use the British sheet cloth for all Datsun cars to be sold in Europe. Its annual shipments to Europe total 200,000 units.—Reuter.

W Germany had record surplus last month

Wiesbaden, March 24.—West Germany's trade surplus rose to DM2,730m (about £682m) in February, from DM1,980m in January and DM2,190m in February, 1975, the Federal Statistics Office said.

German exports in February were DM20,980m against imports of DM18,250m, giving a net surplus on trade of DM2,730m the statistics office *figures show.*

An office official said February exports were 6 per cent above the January figure and 9.5 per cent above the same month a year ago. Imports stood 2.5 per cent higher than in January but 7.5 per cent above the February, 1976.

The foreign trade surplus for the first two months of this year was DM4,710m against DM4,680m a year ago, he added.

The West German current account, including services and transfers, showed a preliminary deficit in February of DM200m, compared with a deficit of DM480m in January and a surplus of DM514m in February, 1976.—Reuter.

Business appointments

Reckitt & Colman elect chairman

Mr James Cleminson, deputy chairman and chief executive of Reckitt & Colman, has been elected chairman from May 20. He will remain as chief executive. Mr Arthur Mason will be retiring as chairman on that date but will continue as a non-executive director.

Mr J. A. Howard, deputy chairman Howard Machinery, has been made group chief executive. Mr Peter Coleclough is giving up his executive responsibilities but will continue as chairman.

Mr John S. Golaf becomes a director of Associated Biscuit Manufacturers.

Mr Allan Darton, Mr John Derrington, Mr Peter Kershaw and Mr Peter Scott have been elected directors of Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons.

Mr L. W. Skelton will join the board of Consolidated Gold Fields Australia on May 1.

Mr David Hunt becomes managing director of Bristol Street Motors (Derby).

Mr John Archer has been made financial director of Welford Truck Bodies.

Mr Charles Gorer has been made a director of Sterling Guards.

Mr David Richards has become financial controller of F. Hills and Sons.

Mr J. David has been made chairman and managing director *of Catomance in succession to the* late Mr G. W. Whiston.

Mr J. A. Howard (left) who becomes group chief executive of Howard Machinery; Mr James Cleminson, chief executive of Reckitt & Colman, who additionally becomes chairman in May.

Mr David Worthy has been appointed first director of the British Woodworking Federation.

Mr D. R. Stevens has been elected deputy chairman of Drayton Commercial Trust. Mr J. R. Storar becomes deputy chairman of *Drayton Premier Investment* Trust.

Changes have been made in Hawker Siddeley companies manufacturing switchgear and transformers. Two new policy companies, Hawker Siddeley Switchgear and Hawker Siddeley Transformers, have been formed. Mr T. W. B. *Sallitt* becomes chairman and Mr R. A. Grierson managing director of Hawker Siddeley Switchgear. Mr Sallitt will also be chairman of Hawker Siddeley Transformers. Mr Grierson is to be chairman of a new operating company, Brush Power Equipment with Mr K. V. Latham as managing director.

Mr Grierson has been appointed chairman and Mr D. A. Stack managing director of Brush Switchgear. Mr R. C. Ballantyre becomes chairman of Brush Transformers and will continue as managing director. He has also been appointed chairman of Yorkshire Electric Transformer, Washington Engineering, and of South Wales Electric Zambia and becomes a director of South Wales Switchgear. Mr L. V. Smith becomes managing director of Yorkshire Electric Transformer and Mr R. L. Dormer is to be managing director of Washington Engineering. Mr C. A. Martin and Mr E. Owen are appointed directors of South Wales Switchgear. Mr F. H. A. Baker and Mr R. N. Lloyd-Evans become directors of Brush Transformers, and Mr L. E. Hooper joins the board of South Wales Electric Zambia.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Profit-taking subdues equities

With the political uncertainty the previous few days moved, there was a surprisingly muted performance from equities.

Light profit-taking was the order of the day and by the close the *FT* Index had lost six points at 421.4. Dealers felt that the gains attributable to the Government's victory had come late on Wednesday and, apart from a flurry in the first hour yesterday, the success was largely discounted.

Gilt-edged stocks started well, but subsequently fell away to end narrowly mixed around overnight levels. The over-subscription of the new £800m stock meant that the market will go without the restraint of a new "tap" and provided some initial encouragement. But money market signals that MLR is likely to remain unchanged and some profit-taking acted as a counterweight.

Long dates, five-eighths

In spite of another 6p rise to 100p for store group Bourne & Hollingsworth, many remain sceptical about the chances of a bid. They say the location of the store is not the most attractive in Oxford Street, London, and feel the price rise owes much to the market's present willingness to act on unsubstantiated chatter. Early this month, B & H told The Times *it knew of no approach.*

either at one point, closed with gains of about one-eighth, while "shorts" ended at their lowest levels and were little changed.

The retailing sector provided a number of speculative features. With a property revaluation expected, Owen Owen met with demand and rose 5p to 77p.

After scoring 10p in the previous session, Ratners lost 1p to 87p, in spite of talk that a bid worth 120p is "on the table". H. Samuel is mentioned as a possible suitor.

Herbert Morris held steady at 225p awaiting further developments, Leeds & District Dyers continued to go ahead at 70p, up 4p, while takeover talk persisted at William Press, which closed 5½p to the good at 61½p.

Confirmation that De La Rue had sold its Formica interests had the shares 11p better on balance at 373p, and UKO International dropped 10p to 150p in late trading on the Monopolies decision to block the Pilkington bid.

Standard Trust gained 15p to 150p after the Prudential emerged as a rival to BR Pension Fund and Schlesinger. The trust's shares were briefly suspended. Avon Rubber also saw some late interest and ended 4p higher at 130p.

But it was left to Peachey Property, the most active share, to provide most interest. In spite of the announcement of results coming next week, the shares dipped 9p to 28p, after 23p, on adverse rumours which were widespread, but unconfirmed.

Food shares commanded interest with Alaynards up 10p to 80p after figures, Pork Farms better by 10p to 167p in response to favourable comment, Kwik Save firmer by 3p to 170p and Booker McConnell gaining 1p to 149p on earlier figures.

Comment by President Carter on restraining oil consumption brought late falls to the sector with BP closing 24p lower at 816p on transatlantic selling, Shell losing 6p to 438p and Ultramar 10p to 144p.

Another feature in the sector was Attock Oil which ended 10p ahead at 98p after news of a 16 per cent Kuwaiti stake.

A fresh advance in the commodity price brought tea shares into prominence again, with Camelia 10p to 162p, Longbourne 10p to 200p and Deundi 6p to 46p scoring the strongest rises.

The building sector performed rather better than average with Glynwed meeting a strong demand and rising 6p to 111p, AP Cement up 2p to 188p in spite of the disappointment at earlier results, International Timber better by 2p to

Star performer of the building sector was Marchwiel where a strong speculative interest had the shares 7p better at 164p. The attraction is the possibility that this cash-rich group will make some sort of capital distribution. The prospect of a bid through the McAlpine interests is also an ever-present background feature.

89p and Costain by 2p to 170p.

Peachey apart, properties were subdued though Haslemere lost 5p to 188p and Churchbury went in the reverse direction to the extent of 4p to 190p.

In insurances, broker Bowring lost 2p to 87p after figures, while Sun Alliance gave up 7p to 448p ahead of figures due soon. Prudential, after the terms for Standard Trust, gave up 8p for a close of 128p.

Profit-taking after figures left Gallenkamp 4p lower at 186p, but Liverpool Post jumped 5p to 111p after doubled profits. Smith & Nephew held firm at 47½p, as did Manchester Liners at 260p with Sime Darby closing 3p lower at 102p, all after statements. At 27p, Blackwood, Morton put on a penny after its statement.

Equity turnover on March 23 was £101.01m (15,939 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday were Peachey Properties, Shell, ICI, BAT Dfd, Wm Press, Dunlop, Royal Insurance, Beecham, BSG International, Burmah, Trafalgar House, Lucas, Gus "A", GKN, Swan Hunter, Midland Bank, BAT Ind, BP, Thomas Tilling, Imperial Group, GEC, Herbert Morris, Avon Rubber, Glynwed, Bourne & Hollingsworth and Ratners.

Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Barton & Sons (25p) Fin	1.82	1.66	—	2.92	2.66
Blackwood, Mrtn (25p) Int	0.81	0.81	25/5	—	1.62
C. T. Bowring (25p) Fin	1.82	1.38	—	2.63	2.29
British Mohair (25p) Fin	1.74	0.65	—	2.46	1.3
R. Cartwright (10p) Fin	1.41	1.19	6/5	2.41	2.19
Cons Plantations (10p) Int	3.5	2.5	9/5	—	8
Countryside Props (5p) Int	0.25	—	12/5	—	0.16
Electrolux (50 kr) Fin	5.5**	5**	—	5.5**	5**
A. Gallenkamp (25p) Int	2.25	2	20/5	—	4.35
J. Hewitt & Son (5p) Fin	0.92	0.84	—	0.92	0.84
A. A. Jones (25p) Fin	3.31	3.02	18/5	4.81	4.37
L'pool Daily Post (50p) Fin	4.09	3.72	29/4	6.5	5.91
Manchester Liners (20p) Fin	4.02	4.02	—	5.02	5.02
North Broken Hill (50c) Int	3.0†	3.5†	3/6	—	9.0†
Philips' Lamps (10 fl) Fin	1‡	1‡	—	1.6‡	1.4‡
Pressac Holdings (10p) Int	0.84	0.76	20/5	—	2.4
Sime Darby (10p) Int	1.1*	0.85*	31/5	—	2.6*
Smith & Nephew (10p) Fin	1.44	1.31	24/5	2.15	1.96
F. W. Thorpe (10p) Int	0.6	0.55	17/5	—	1.3
Wilkinson W'burton (25p) Fin	2.9	2.64	23/5	4.5	4.24

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Declared gross. † Cents per share. ‡ Florins per share. ** Kronor per share.

Smith & Nephew is plodding on

By Richard Allen

Profitability continues to improve slowly but surely at the Smith & Nephew cosmetics and pharmaceuticals group.

Helped by year-end exchange gains of £1.1m it managed to push pre-tax profits up by 19 per cent to £14m last year. And it promises that the outturn for the first three months of the new term should be 25 per cent ahead of the corresponding period after a real improvement of over 15 per cent in last year's final quarter.

Meanwhile, the year's sales growth of 23 per cent to £145m brought little extra stress to the balance-sheet with borrowings (excluding loan stock) rising from £15.7m to £16.9m. Net borrowings now represent 67 per cent of shareholders' funds or 32 per cent of the increased figures assuming loan stock conversion.

A higher tax charge—chiefly from unrelieved United States losses—depresses the net profit figure, and earnings a share are just 10 per cent better at 4.9p. A final dividend of 2.23p takes the total payment up by the maximum to 3.32p gross.

All divisions made progress with cosmetics sales and profits improving substantially at home and on the export front. In the United States, however, problems persisted and resulted in a pre-tax loss of £1.2m. But United States activities have now been pared considerably and projections for 1977 indicate an improving trend.

Elsewhere textiles and clothing provided the biggest boost, while medical, optical and pharmaceutical products did well. Capital expenditure last year was £6.8m, compared with a depreciation charge of £3m.

Philips leap is hard to evaluate

By Roy Maughan

Philips Lamp, the giant Dutch electrical goods manufacturer, pushed sales last year up from F27,115m to F30,435m.

Pre-tax profits for the year soared from £703m to F1,282m but the figures (the group points out) are not directly comparable. The latest figures no longer take in the results of large and medium-capacity computers, but they do include F135m charged as miscellaneous items in connexion with a number of restructuring operations including the adaptation of the company's United Kingdom distribution organization.

In addition, a net sum of F194m was charged against profits in respect of adverse exchange difference, while Philips enjoyed credit in the previous year.

At net level, Philips jumped from F378m to F672m but the comparable distributable profit for 1975 was F464m. Fourth-quarter net earnings rose from F159m before a tax provision adjustment to F205m.

Denying rumours that the group's telephone system tender in Saudi Arabia had been turned down, Philips stated yesterday that it had been asked earlier this week to tender an offer after it had made a study lasting almost a year for a multi-billion guilder telephone system. The position had not changed since then, the company stressed.

Dividends of F1.6 a share are declared for the year.

Lyons sells half of its S African Wimpy to locals

Following the sale of Wimpy franchises in Britain to United Biscuits for £7m late last year, J. Lyons has sold a 50 per cent stake in its troublesome Wimpy subsidiary in South Africa for £608,000.

The buyer, Bakers South Africa, has an option to take up the remaining 50 per cent within three years.

When Lyons set out the details of the £35m disinvestment programme last month, losses of some £3.2m at the South African Wimpy operation were first unveiled. The problems arose from a combination of errors of omission, overstatement of assets and the crystallization of guarantees; and the deficit related mainly to the two years up to March, 1976.

Management action has plugged the leak and the operation is now said to be trading profitably. Bakers' chairman, Mr Len Baumann, sees scope for growth.

Exports shine at Gallenkamp

The strong overseas content in earnings offsetting a stagnant United Kingdom market enabled Gallenkamp, (scientific instruments, etc), to turn in strong opening half.

For the period to September 31 taxable profit jumped 42 per cent to £2.67m, on sales up from £11.38m to £13.23m. Earnings a share, basic, were up from 13.72p to 19.46p and, fully-diluted, from 12.57p to 17.64p. The half time dividend rises from 3.08p gross to 3.85p.

Mr Peter Hallett, chairman, says that at home sale increased by 7 per cent in value over the same period. Total sales, up 16 per cent, owed the bulk of the improvement to exports—30 per cent up on the same time in 1976 and contributing 45 per cent of the whole.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Talisman opponents still not charmed

By Our Financial Staff

Anti-Talisman campaigner Mr Colin Harding, is predicting a "very close outcome indeed" when Stock Exchange members meet to vote on the *future of* the computerized settlement system next Wednesday.

Most of the members of Mr Harding's "1976 Committee", made up of 80 smaller firms originally opposed to the system, remain unmoved by the SE Council's decision earlier this week to make small reductions in planned charges.

Mr Harding said after a meeting of the committee yesterday that these members intended to cast a categorical "No" vote at next week's meeting.

However, a minority of committee members are resolved to make an attempt to attach conditions to a potential "Yes" vote. Among the conditions suggested at yesterday's meeting were that the Talisman system should be run as an autonomous body with a board of directors drawn partly from outside the Stock Exchange Council: and another was that fresh consideration should be given to cost-cutting possibilities.

Meanwhile, one firm represented at the meeting is currently attempting to whip up support for an amendment to be tabled next Wednesday delaying the vote for a few weeks while these matters are considered.

C Plantations in twin bid

Reporting interim profits for the half to December 31 up from Ringgit 16.94m to 21.95m. Consonlidated Plantations said in Kuala Lumpur it is making an agreed offer for the rest of Patani Para Plantations and Batu Matang Rubber Plantations. CP already owns 28.4 and 33.9 per cent of the respective equities.

Terms of the offers are four CP or 360p cash for every three Patani and 11 CP or 1,000p cash for every ten Batu. The new shares of CP will not rank for the interim dividend just declared.

For the half to December 31 turnover of CP rose from Ringgit 81.4m to 91.56m.

L'pool Post shows how to do it

Strength in diversity is the keynote of full-time results for *1976 from Liverpool Daily Post* & Echo. As broadly expected, profits not only passed a first-time £3m but copped £4m as well, after a mid-term jump from £1.18m to £1.87m. The shares responded with a 5p rise to 111p.

On turnover increased from £32m to £39.6m, taxable earnings soared 42 per cent to £4m and the net from £1.4m to £2m. Its total payout rises from 9.09p gross to 10p.

Pre-tax profits from retailing added 18 per cent, and papermaking and packaging 52 per cent; but the most marked rise was from Canadian newspaper publishing, where, helped by the decline in sterling, profits soared 111 per cent. Newspapers at home were static at £1m, contributing 25 per cent (against 33) to overall profits. Papermaking and packaging increased its share of profit from 41 to 43 per cent with £1.74m (£1.14m).

For 1977, however, neither Canada nor the company's papermaking interests are likely to do more than consolidate their gains. But total profit should at least be maintained.

Jones & Shipman orders revive

There has been a "very substantial" increase in orders in recent months at Jones & Shipman. But a setback in the second half of 1976 leaves pre-tax profits of this high precision machine-tool maker 4.3 per cent off at *£1.7m for the year.* Turnover went up from £10.7m to £11.5m, suggesting a fall in margins from 17 to 15 per cent.

The dividend is going up from 6.72p to 7.4p gross out of earnings of 13.9p (14.7p). At half time, the group reported a slight rise in profit to £737,000 before adjusting for inflation. The volume of incoming orders then still fell short of the amount needed fully to use all group resources.

BMK leans on exports

After adjusting the 1975 results to conform with new accounting methods, pre-tax profits of carpet group Blackwood Morton & Sons (Holdings) have risen 45 per cent to £504,000 for the six months to December 31, on sales up 12 per cent to £13.8m. Exports accounted for over £2.5m of sales—a 75 per cent rise.

Profits had to bear interest charges of £239,500 (against £105,000). But the second half should benefit from the recent *fall in money rates.*

M/C Liners go slightly astern

Despite an 87 per cent spurt *in the second half to £739,000,* Manchester Liners did not manage "at least" to equal its 1975 profits for the full year, as was hoped at half time. At £7.03m, the pre-tax figure for 1976 compares with £7.2m for 1975 and a record £6.3m for 1974.

The group which Furness Withy controls, pushed its revenue for the year up from £39.6m to £50.3m. Out of earnings a share of 8.3p (9p) the dividend is held at 7.73p gross. Profits bore a loss of £405,000 *on the sale of a ship.*

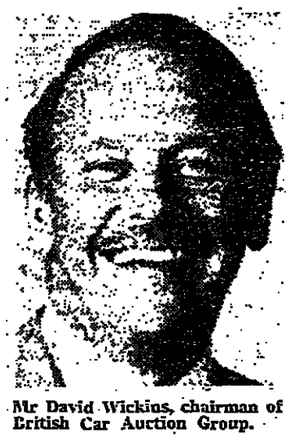
Tricentrol-Ashmole

Holders of over 95 per cent of the ordinary shares in Ashmole Investment Trust have accepted the recommended *offer made by Morgan Grenfell* on behalf of Tricentrol. A listing for the new ordinary shares in Tricentrol to be issued has been granted by the Council of the Stock Exchange and all the conditions of the offer have been fulfilled. Accordingly, the offer has become unconditional and remains open for acceptance until further notice. The total number of existing ordinary shares in Ashmole in respect of which acceptances have so far been received (including shares represented by incomplete acceptances) is 3.8 million.

Mendip-Cabot

Documents giving details of the proposed scheme of amalgamation of Mendip Investment Co with Cabot Unit Trust have been posted. An extraordinary meeting will be held on April 19 to approve the proposals and it is expected the scheme will become effective on April 20.

Stating that the net asset value a share of Mendip at February 28 was 83.8p, the board intends to declare a second interim dividend before the meeting of an amount sufficient to enable Mendip to qualify as an approved investment trust. This dividend will be paid on May 27. The dividend is expected to be "substantially" more than the final for 12-month period to February 29. No further dividends will be paid.



Mr David Wickins, chairman of British Car Auction Group.

Strong brew-up by Williamson

Tea prices at all world centres continuing to rise at an unprecedented rate, Williamson Tea Holdings forecasts profits for 1976 "considerably in excess" of the previous year. In 1975 pre-tax profits were £1.67m. Meanwhile an application will be made for the removal of dividend restraints as its operations are chiefy overseas. However, the ability to pay more also depends on permission to repatriate profits held in India, on India's Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and also ability to remit from Tanzania.

Meanwhile, to comply with the Act, the group is submitting a scheme in India whereby all the assets and liabilities of subsidiaries operating there will be vested with effect from January 1, 1978, in a single rupee company.

'Gold Fields' taking in Whitby Potash

Consolidated Gold Fields is to buy Whitby Potash, which has exploration rights and *mineral* options over 12,000 acres in north-east Yorkshire, from Shell Petroleum.

Subject to a feasibility study, it is expected that the mine will be in production in the early 1980's at an annual rate of 450,000 tonnes. Current United Kingdom consumption of potash is running at about 750,000 tonnes, half of which is imported from Eastern Europe.

Gold Fields' intends to run an 18 month assessment programme. Charter Consolidated, another United Kingdom mining finance house, is working the troubled Cleveland potash mine in Yorkshire with ICI.

Nationwide on knife-edge

The finely-edged takeover battle by British Car Auction Group for Nationwide Leisure is proving a cliff-hanger. The offer which was due to close on Wednesday has now been extended to today with BCA holding 47.61 per cent of the Nationwide equity in its £620,000 total offer. BCA has received acceptances for 1.66m Nationwide shares, some 26.45 per cent, and 1.33m Nationwide shares have been acquired or agreed to be acquired by BCA *during the offer period.*

Mr David Wickins, BCA chairman, has claimed that the Nationwide Board is openly divided.

Recovery continues at Assoc Fisheries

Profits of Associated Fisheries, the trawling and frozen food group, are continuing their recovery, Mr P. M. Tapscott, the chairman, told yesterday's annual meeting. But he warned that the future of the British fishing industry remained "complex and confused".

When the results for the first half of the current year are announced in July, he believes they will show a "reasonable profit figure" compared with *the loss of £1.6m at the halfway* stage two years ago and a loss of £837,000 for the first six months of last year.

Bryant chairman gets summonses

Mr Chris Bryant, chairman of Bryant Holdings, issued a statement yesterday concerning summonses served on Wednesday following a four-year police inquiry. Some 16 allegations related to individual gifts, etc., said to have been corruptly given to Mr J. A. Maudsley, former Birmingham City architect, between 1966 and 1972. There were also two conspiracy charges.

Mr Bryant had received a summons on each of the conspiracy charges. Along with Mr Maurice Barwick and C. Bryant & Sons, he had been charged with corruptly giving two dozen bottles of gin to Mr Maudsley at Christmas, 1972.

Dazzling rebound by Mohair Spinners

British Mohair Spinners staged a fine recovery last year, more than trebling pre-tax profits to just over £2m. And Mr T. W. Hibbert, the group's chairman, says that order books are still expanding.

The success is celebrated with a near 90 per cent increase in the dividend payout to 3.78p gross on recovery grounds. Earnings per share go up from *2.78p to 8.48p. Sales during the* year increased from £13m to just over £20m largely as a result of higher raw material prices.

However demand for alpaca and mohair continues to hold firm despite spiralling prices. Mr Hibbert says that all firms in the group contributed to profits but the main thrust came from expanding export trade. *The value of exported* goods leapt from £4.9m in 1975 to around £8m last year.

The return to profits growth after depressed totals in both 1974 and 1975 has provided some additional stress and interest charges went up from £110,000 to £268,000 during the year.

The group, which has mills in Bradford, Carrickfergus, Keighley and Bingley, is 18 per cent owned by Illingworth Morris.

Grindlays to obtain property revaluation

Grindlays Bank is to obtain a revaluation of its properties during 1977, Mr N. J. Robson, the new chairman, tells shareholders in his report with the accounts.

From assessments made during 1976, he says that overall values are more than the £33.6m shown in the balance-sheet. The chairman points to the high liquidity of the group. In 1976, deposits and advances both rose by 30 per cent, while cash and short-term funds rose by 36 *per cent.*

The opportunity was taken early in 1976 to reduce the size of the gilt-edged portfolio and although this resulted in a loss Mr Robson says the decision has been justified.

There are still problems on some of the property loans and a substantial amount of money is still outstanding on which no interest is being received.

It was clear that the second half of the year was better than the first and the chairman forecasts further improvement in 1977.

Briefly

HARRISONS MALAYSIAN

Offers by Harrisons Malaysian Estates have been accepted for 91.26 per cent of Golden Hope Plantations, 85.77 per cent of London Asiatic Rubber and 86.41 per cent of Pataling Rubber. Directors of the three companies have accepted for their own holdings and strongly recommend those shareholders who have not already done so to do the same.

WILKINSON WARBURTON

On sales up from £12.28m to £14.32m in 1976, pre-tax profits rose from £537,000 to £610,000. Total gross payment raised from *6.52p to 6.93p. Board looks* forward to 1977 with cautious optimism.

ENGLISH CHINA CLAYS

Acceptances received for about 93.73 per cent of 22.31m ordinary shares offered in rights issue at 62p each. Shares not taken up *have been sold at a premium over* the issue price.

BLUE CIRCLE-DAVIS

Talks on what could lead to an offer being made by Blue Circle for shares in Hubert Davis not already owned. Blue Circle is the South African subsidiary of AP Cement.

J. HEWITT (FENTON)

Pre-tax profit for 1976 of J. Hewitt and Son (Fenton) £250,000, against £135,000 restated. Total gross payment raised from 1.29p to 1.42p.

LONDON SHOP

Pre-tax profits of London Shop Property Trust for half-year to Oct 31 up from £137,000 to £262,000. Profit from property trading was £36,500. Board expects property trading profits in second half-year to be in the region of those for the year to April 30, 1976 (which were £196,000).

MITSUI PETROCHEMICAL

Mitsui Petrochemical Industries' *$25m eurobond, due 1982,* was priced at par with an 8 per cent coupon, Nomura Securities said as issue manager. Issue was oversubscribed.

EEC BOND

Brussels.—An EEC $100m bond issue was equipped with a 7½ per cent coupon when terms were finalized recently. The issue will be managed by a Dutch syndicate of nine banks headed by Algemene Bank Nederland.—AP-Dow Jones.

BAT—F. J. WALLIS

Another subsidiary of BAT Industries group *has bought 50,000* ordinary shares in F. J. Wallis at 64p and 600,000 at 63 19/32p. BAT Industries now holds 17.08 million shares (33.3 per cent) in Wallis.

FITZWILTON

Board proposes to remove some of the anomalies that have arisen in the accounts as a result of various acquisitions. It proposes to use the share premium account of £0.03m.

ELF—ACQUITAINE

The Ste Nationale Elf—Acquitaine $75m eurobond, due 1985, was priced at par with an 8¾ per cent coupon, Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) said as lead manager. Issue was substantially oversubscribed.

GZB FLOATING RATE NOTES

Arrangements completed for issue by Genossenschaftliche Zentralbank Aktiengesellschaft Vienna ("GZB") of US $40m six-year floating rate notes, due 1983, at par. The minimum interest rate is confirmed at 6 per cent per annum *throughout the life of the issue.*

BTR

A total of 8.33m shares provisionally allotted in connection with BTR's rights were accepted. Balance of 572,801 shares have been sold in the market.

FRIEDLAND DOGGART

Pre-tax profits for 53 weeks to January 2 are £1.68m (£1.36m). Earnings a share are 12.74p (9.72p). Dividend is 4.31p (3.9p) gross.

M. F. NORTH PURCHASE

Khalid Al Marzook and associates have acquired 1.89m shares, *in this hotels group, bringing their* stake to 21.63 per cent.

"W" RIBBONS

Turnover for six months to December 31, £6.6m (£7m). Pre-tax profits, £335,000 (£251,000). Earnings a share are 3.35p (2.75p). "Considerable" rise seen for current half. Dividend is 1.49p gross (1.35p).

RICARDO, ENGINEERS

Pre-tax profits of Ricardo and Co. Engineers (1927) for half-year to Dec 31 up from £174,000 to £227,000. Demand for consulting services and associated contract engineering activities remain strong, board reports. Board looks to immediate future with some confidence. Interim payment, gross, *raised from 2.88p to 3.65p.*

DISCOUNT BANK INV

Disdaining a rights issue, board of Discount Bank Investment Corp proposes to raise additional capital by public issue of 891,000 ordinary shares, £13.36m (Israeli) of 18 per cent convertible debenture stock, *1981-87 and 618,660* option warrants. These are being offered to public in Israel in units of 30 ordinary shares, £450 debenture and 20 option warrants at £925 (Israeli) per unit, to raise £25.69m (Israeli).

J. & J. MAKIN

Turnover of J. & J. Makin Paper Mills for half-year to September 30 up from £4.62m to £4.82m, but pre-tax profits down from £185,000 to £154,000. Board reports that in current half-year, profits on paper side have increased considerably. Interim payment, gross, held at 0.61p.

ALFRED LOCKHART

Turnover for year to October 31 up from £1.38m to £1.69m and pre-tax profits up from £58,000 to £118,000. Gross dividend, 2.25p (2.04p).

Midland Bk mops up all Thos Cook

Negotiations announced in December for Midland Bank Group to buy out its partners in the Thomas Cook travel business, have gone through. Midland held just over 70 per cent and now has the 23 per cent stake of Trust Houses Forte and the 6.7 per cent of the Automobile Association.

No price is disclosed but the bank is believed to have paid something less than the £5 a share which the original stake cost in 1972. Thus, present deals could have cost around £6m. Midland now has all the Thomas Cook equity as the former Wagon-Lits interest in certain overseas companies was acquired a few months ago.

Mr Alec Durie, director general of the AA, and Mr Jack Hollingshead, a director of THF, will remain on the Cook board for the time being to complete transition. Moreover, for the future, there is an understanding with Midland Bank that both THF and the AA should continue their trading relationships with Cook.

Announcing the acquisition, Lord Armstrong, chairman of Midland, said: "It makes commercial sense for us to become the sole owners of the Thomas Cook Group although we shall be sorry to lose such evident specialists as the THF and the AA as co-shareholders." Over the past year the position of the group as a whole has much improved, and despite the current downturn in the United Kingdom travel trade the recent return to overall profitability should be maintained during the current year.

F. W. THORPE

Turnover for half-year to Dec last up from £1.12m to £1.33m and pre-tax profits from £160,000 to £182,000. Interim payment, gross, raised from 0.84p to 0.92p.

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rebound
pinners

ARKET REPORTS

arp losses in fee, cocoa

re were sharp losses in coffee coa on the London markets day morning. Spot March declined by £170 per tonne May was £144 down. The losses were £70 for spot and £101 for May.

markets were hit by liqui- and stoploss selling. The fundamentals point to a supply situation for nearby als with delayed shipments West Africa a relevant

was easier, cash wire bars £8.75 and three months £8.30. noon.—Cash wire bars, 0-100.00 metric ton: three £924-24.50. Sales, 4,050 tons. athodes, £886.50-87.50; three £915-15.50. Sales, nil tons. s.—Cash wire bars £900.50- three months, £930-30.50. ent. £901.50. Sales, 4,106 tons. athodes, £890-91; three months,

Bank Base Rates

rclays Bank ..	10½%
nsoldtd Credits	11½%
st London Secs	11½%
Hoare & Co ..	*10½%
oyds Bank	10½%
idland Bank ..	10½%
r Westminster	10½%
ssminster Acc's	11½%
enley Trust ..	14%
illiams & Glyn's	10½%

7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 6%, up to £25,000, 7%, over £25,000, 7¾%.

Commodities

£919-20. Settlement, £891. Sales, 1,100 tons (a carry).

SILVER lost between 2.40p and 3.50p in the ring.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 288.20p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 490.2); three months, 295.80p (501.3c); six months, 304.30p (508.2c); one year, 321.40p (525.6c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 287.3-87.7p; three months, 295-95.3p; seven months, 305-305p. Sales, 149 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 287.8-88.2p; three months, 295.8-95.8p; seven months, 306-307p. Settlement, 288.3p. Sales, 96 lots.

TIN was steady at the lower levels. Standard cash fell £5 and three months was £10 down.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,790-5,810 a metric ton; three months, £5,945-50. Sales, 845 tons (about half carries). High grade, cash, £5,790-5,810; three months, £5,945-50. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £5,860-90; three months, £6,030-35. Settlement, £5,890. Sales, 730 tons (mainly carries). High grade, cash, £5,860-90; three months, £6,030-35. Settlement, £5,890. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M1,605 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £401-402 a metric ton; three months, £412.50-13.50. Sales, 450 tons. Morning.—Cash, £404-04.50; three months, £414-15. Settlement, £404.50. Sales, 3,650 tons.

ZINC was easier both cash and three months losing £8.50.—Afternoon: Cash, £409-410 a metric ton; three months, £423-23.50. Sales, 1,675 tons (mainly carries). Morning: Cash, £413-13.50; three months, £427-27.50. Settlement, £414.50. Sales, 1,200 tons. Producers' price $795 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was at £95.45 ($164) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was uncertain after steady (pence per kilo).—April, 54.10-54.25; May, 54.60-54.40; April-June, 54.60-55.00; July-Sept, 56.30-56.50; Oct-Dec, 61.50-61.55; Jan-March, 63.70-63.80; April-June, 65.35-65.30; July-Sept, 67.15-67.30; Oct-Dec, 69.40-69.70. Sales, 27 lots at 5 tonnes; 186 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER SPECIALS were steady.—Spot, 52.25-54.00. Cifs, April, 51.25-51.75; May, 52.25-52.75.

COFFEE fell sharply.—March, £3,950-4,100 per metric ton; May, £3,055-60; July, £4,075-78; Sept, £4,090-95; Nov, £4,100-4,120; Jan, £4,110-4,150; March, £4,106-4,110. Sales: 6,226 lots including 24 options.

PALM OIL was quiet.—April, £355-80 per metric ton; June, £365-75; Aug, £369-70; Oct, £362-70; Dec, £362-70; Feb, £362-68; April, £362-68.

COCOA was irregular. March, £2,500-2,501 per metric ton; May, £2,410-40.50; July, £2,361-64; Sept, £2,280-95; Dec, £2,150-55; March, £2,090-2,110; May, £2,060-90. Sales: 8,834 lots including 58 options. ICO prices: daily 183.34c; 15-day average 188c; 22-day average 184.70c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were steady. The London daily price of "raws" was unchanged at £133; the "whites" price was unchanged at £139.—May, £135.45-35.00 per metric ton; Aug, £137.80-38.00; Oct, £140-40.15; Dec, £142.60-42.75; March, £146.35-46.40; May, £148.60-48.75; Aug, £151.40-51.45. Sales, 3,801 lots. ISA prices: 9.46c; 15-day average 8.90c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was slightly steady after easy.—April, £160.50-61.00 per metric ton; June, £167.40-67.50; Aug, £171.50-72.00; Oct, £164.50-64.70; Dec, £149.40-49.90; Feb, £149.50-50.00; April, £149-53.50. Sales, 170 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady (pence per kilo).—March, 228-30; May, 232.5-33.5; July, 237-37.5; Oct, 246-48; Dec, 248-52.0; March, 250-52.0; May, 253.5-60.0; July, 256-64. Sales, 31 lots.

JUTE was steady.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, March-April, $315 per long ton. D grade, March-April, $307. Calcutta was firm.—Indian, spot, Rs580 per bale of 400lbs, Dundee Tossa Four, spot, Rs550.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: April-May, £84.10; June, £85.10; July, £85.60; Aug, £88.05 transhipment east coast. EEC feed: March, £80; April, £87; May, £88 east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American/French: March, £83.25; April, £83.50 east coast.

BARLEY.—EEC feed Canadian No 2 option: March, £81.75; April, £82 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was quietly steady: May, £84.25; Sept, £86.70; Nov, £89.75; Jan, £92.70. Sales: 34 lots. WHEAT was quietly steady: May, £89.90; Sept, £91.75; Nov, £94.60; Jan, £97.55. Sales: 46 lots.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Hants, W Sussex	£87.90		£81.15
N Lincs	£89.25	£87.20	£81.85

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 24.—GB: Cattle, 56.55p per KgLW (−0.30). UK: Sheep, 154.4p per KgEstDCW (+4.3). GB: Pigs, 81.1p per KgLW (+0.6). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 18.6 per cent, average price 57.01p (+0.03). Sheep numbers down 7.7 per cent, average price 154.2p (+2.0). Pig numbers up 5.2 per cent, average price 81.1p (+0.6). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 11.8 per cent, average price 55.12p (−1.60). Sheep numbers down 27.8 per cent, average price 134.6p (+10.3). Pig numbers up 33.3 per cent, average price 83.7p (no change).

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

	Bid	Offer
Alcan 9¼ 1988 ..	103¼	104¼
Amoco 8¼ 1980 ..	103¼	104¼
Amoco 8¾ 1985 ..	103¾	104¾
Anglia 10 1985 ..	104	105
ANZ 9 1980 ..	104¼	105¼
Bank of Tokyo 8¾ 1981	102¾	103¾
Barclays 9½ 1982 ..	104¼	105¼
Bell Canada 8¼ 1986 ..	103¼	104¼
BFCE 8¾ 1985 ..	102	103
British Gas 9 1981 ..	102¾	103¾
British Steel 8 1987 ..	97	98¼
Cadbury Schweppes 7¾ 1990 ..	87¼	89¼
CECA 9¾ 1986 ..	103¼	104¼
CFP 9 1982 ..	104¼	105¼
Charbonnage de France 8¾ 1981 ..	102	103
Cons Foods 7¾ 1991 ..	97	98
Curacao 8¾ 1988 ..	99¾	100¾
Curacao 10¾ 1981 ..	104¾	105¾
Denmark Mge 9 1983	102¼	103¼
DSM 9¾ 1980 ..	105¼	106¼
Edinburgh 9 1981 ..	102	103¼
EEC 7¾ 1979 ..	100¾	101¼
EEC 8¾ 1982 ..	101¾	102¾
EIB 9 1980 ..	104¼	105¼
EIB 9¾ 1985 ..	105¼	106¼
Escom Fin 82 ..	96¾	97
Escom 10¾ 1983 ..	100¾	102¼
Esso 8 Mar 1986 ..	103	104
GATX 8¾ 1987 ..	102	103
Gould 9¾ 1983 ..	106	107
Guardian Royal 8 1987	93¼	95¼
Gulf & Western 9¾ 1980	104¾	105¾
Gulf & Western 9¾ 1982	103¾	104¾
Massey 9¾ 1982 ..	103¾	104¾
Massey 9¾ 1983 ..	103¾	104¾
Montreal 9¾ 1983 ..	105¼	106¼
Montreal 9¾ 1981 ..	105¼	106¼
Nat Coal Board 8¾ 1989	97	98¼
Nat Westminster 9 1986	102	103
Newfoundland & Labrador 9¾ 1983 ..	104¼	105¼
New Zealand 9 1980 ..	104¼	105¼
New Zealand 9¾ 1983	104	105
New Zealand 8¾ 1985	103¼	104¼
Nippon Fudosan 8 1981	100	101
Nippon Steel 9¾ 1980	105	106
Norsk Hydro 9¾ 1985	105¼	106¼
Norsk Hydro 9¾ 1985	107	108
Norpipe 9¾ 1986 ..	103¼	104¼
Occidental 9¾ 1981 ..	105¼	106¼
Occidental 9¾ 1983 ..	105¼	106¼
Pakhoed 9 1982 ..	102¾	103¾
Quebec Prov 8¾ 1981	101¼	102¼
Quebec Prov 9 1982 ..	102¾	103¾
Quebec Prov 9 1984 ..	102	103
Ralston 7¾ 1987 ..	96¾	97¾
Reading & Bates 9¾ 1981	102¾	103¾
Sandvik 9¾ 1984 ..	103	104
Scanraff 7¾ 1990 ..	96	97
Scanraff 8¾ 1988 ..	101¾	102¾
Seagrams 9 1983 ..	104	105
Skandinaviska 10¾ 1981	106	107
Stelco 9¾ 1980 ..	103	104
Sunstrand 9¾ 1983 ..	105¾	106¾
Svenska 9¾ 1986 ..	104¾	106¼
Toyo Menka 9¾ 1981	103¾	104¾
DM BONDS		
CFP 8¾ 1985 ..	104	105
Denmark 9¾ 1989 ..	107¾	108¾
ICI 8¾ 1982 ..	103¾	104¾
Mexico 9 1985 ..	103¾	104¾
National Westminster 8 1985 ..	102¾	103¾
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8¾ 1982 ..	104¼	105¼
Sun Int Fin 7¾ 1988 ..	103¼	104¼
$ CONVERTIBLES		
American Express 4¼ 1987 ..	85¼	87¼
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1993	97¼	99¼
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1993	108	110
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	112¼	114¼
Borden 5¾ 1992 ..	103¼	105¼
Borden 6¾ 1991 ..	114	116
Broadway Hale 4¾ 1987	77	79
Carnation 4¾ 1987 ..	84¼	86¼
Chevron 6 1992 ..	122¼	124¼
Credit Suisse 4¼ 1991	100¼	102¼
Cummins 6¾ 1988 ..	103¼	105¼
Dart 4¾ 1987 ..	81¼	83¼
Eastman Kodak 4¾ 1988	97	99
Economic Labs 4¾ 1987	80	82

Foreign Exchange

Sterling and the dollar were steadier in international currency dealings yesterday while the yen retreated in Tokyo and Europe in a reversal of its recent sharp advance.

Sterling closed unchanged at $1.7180. The Bank of England intervened in early trading to check the currency's strength as confidence returned following the parliamentary survival of the Labour Government, dealers said.

Markets feel that progress can now go ahead in achieving a further period of wage restraint in Britain and are waiting for next Tuesday's Budget to see what measures can be offered to help to secure British trade union support for a limitation of pay rises, dealers said. The effective rate was at 61.8 per cent.

Gold lost $1 an ounce to close in London at $152.625.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) March 24	Market rates (close) March 24
New York	$1.7165-7195	$1.7175-7185
Montreal	$1.8090-8085	$1.8095-8045
Amsterdam	4.26¾-30¼	4.28¼-29¼
Brussels	62.72-63.10¼	62.90-63.50¼
Copenhagen	10.08¾-¾	10.09¾-¾
Frankfurt	4.69¾-12¼	4.70¾-11¼
Lisbon	66.30-¾	66.40-¾
Madrid	117.75-118.05p	117.85-118.00p
Milan	1525-26¼lr	1524-¾lr
Oslo	8.99-9.02¼	9.00¼-01¼
Paris	8.53¾-¾	8.54¾-¾
Stockholm	7.23-¾	7.23¾-¾
Tokyo	472-¾	473-¾
Vienna	29.05-25sch	29.15-20sch
Zurich	4.36-38¼	4.37¼-36¼

The index of the pound's effective rate was 61.8 (December, 1971=100) against 61.7 on Wednesday night.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.30-.35c prem	2.45-2.35c prem
Montreal	.03-.08c prem	1.25-1.35c prem
Amsterdam	2¼c prem	5¾-4¾c prem
Brussels	20-40c prem	60-85c prem
Copenhagen	¼-1¼ore disc	2¾-4¾ore disc
Frankfurt	2¾-1¾pf prem	6¾-6¾pf prem
Lisbon	25c prem-65c disc	65c prem-par
Madrid	50-120c disc	240-340c disc
Milan	9-15lr disc	32-52lr disc
Oslo	3-1ore prem	2¾-4¾ore prem
Paris	¾-par centime disc	¾c prem-¾c disc
Stockholm	¼-2¾ore disc	1-2ore disc
Vienna	10-15gro prem	25-35gro prem
Zurich	2¾-2¼c prem	9¾-8¾c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $0.8819-22.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4¾-6¾; seven days, 4¾-6¾; one month, 4¾-5; three months, 5-5¼; six months, 5¾-5¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $153.25 (an ounce); pm, $152.75.

Krugerrand (per coin): non-resident, $156.25-158.25 (£91.25-92.25); resident, $156.25-158.25 (£91.25-92.25).

Sovereigns (new): non-resident, $49.51 (£28.50-29.50); resident, $51.53 (£28.75-30.75).

Discount market

The Bank of England lent an exceptionally large sum to the discount market yesterday at MLR for repayment today and at the same time lent a large amount for 7 days at MLR. Ten or 11 houses participated in this help. The overnight lending was given for technical reasons. The 7-day penalty was to be interpreted as indicating that the Bank is not looking for a fall in Treasury bill rate today.

Though a virtually unchanged bill rate today would not preclude the Bank from allowing a cut in MLR to 10 per cent, which is what the market-related formula would currently set, the Bank's action suggests that it will probably continue to over-ride the formula and keep MLR at 10½ per cent for the time being.

Meanwhile, in the very tight credit conditions ruling yesterday, rates in the interbank market stayed most of the day well above the 10½ per cent limit of the discount houses, which, in consequence, made very little progress under their own steam. The help, however, appeared to have been rather overdone and books were closed in the 8 per cent to 10 per cent band when some cheaper funds came out in the last 15 minutes.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 10½% (Last changed 10.3.77)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10½%

Discount Mkt Loans%

Overnight: High 10½ Low 8½

Week Fixed: 10½-10¼

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying	Selling
2 months 9¾	2 months 9¾
3 months 9½	3 months 9½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months 10¼	3 months 10¼
3 months 9¾-9½	4 months 10¼
4 months 9¾-9½	6 months 10½
6 months 9¾-9½	

Local Authority Bonds

1 month 11-10½	7 months 10½-10¼
2 months 11-10½	8 months 10½-10¼
3 months 11-10½	9 months 10½-10¼
4 months 11-10½	10 months 10½-10¼
5 months 11-10½	11 months 10½-10¼
6 months 10½-10¼	12 months 10½-10¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month 10¼-10¼	6 months 9⅞-9⅝
3 months 9¾-9½	12 months 9⅝-9½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days 10¼-11	3 months 11¼
7 days 10½-11	6 months 11¼
1 month 10¼-10½	1 year 11¼-11

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 10½-10¼ Close 10½-10¼

1 week 10¼-10¼	6 months 9¾-9½
1 month 10¼-10¼	9 months 9½-10
3 months 9¾-9½	12 months 10¼-10

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 10½	6 months 10¼

Finance House Base Rate 13%

Wall Street

New York, March 24.—Stock prices closed broadly lower on the New York Stock Exchange today.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 6.65 points to 935.67. Declining issues outnumbered gainers 860 to 495.

Volume totalled 19,650,000 shares compared with 19,360,000 shares Wednesday.

Coffee down 6c limit

New York, March 24.—COFFEE futures in "C" contract closed at or near the new six-cent daily limit down on renewed local selling and late commission house profit-taking that drove prices lower after the market attempted to stage a mid-afternoon rally, said traders. March, 510.00c; May, 514.25c asked; July, 516.06-9.50c; Sept, 518.00c; Dec, 515.10c; March, 509.75c asked.

COCOA.—Futures were: May, 179.45c; July, 174.75c; Sept, 169.45c; Dec, 159.40c; March, 152.75c; May, 147.75c nominal; July, 142.00c. Spots, Ghana and Bahia, 199½c nominal.

SUGAR.—Futures in No 11 contract were: May, 9.24-27c; July, 9.33-36c; Sept, 9.40c; Oct, 9.40-36c; Jan, 9.65-62c; March, 9.74-65c; May, 9.80-62c; July, 9.60c. Spot, 9.25c, off 25.

SILVER.—Futures finished trading down 5.80 to 5.40 cents an ounce.—March, 491.30c; April, 492.00c; May, 494.50c; July, 499.50c; Sept, 503.60c; Dec, 512.00c; Jan, 514.30c; March, 516.50c; May, 524.50c; July, 529.60c. Handy and Harman 401.00c (previous 496.50c). Handy and Harman of Canada: Can$5.169 (previous Can $5.1211).

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Wednesday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

	Mar 23	Mar 22
Allied Chem	43¾	44¼
Allied Stores	42¾	42¾
Allied Supermkt	3	2⅞
Allis Chalmers	29	28½
Alcoa	58¼	58¼
Amax Inc	49	49¾
Amerada Hess	33¾	33
Am Airlines	10¾	10¼
Am Brands	44¼	44¾
Am Broadcast	41¾	42
Am Can	39¾	39¾
Am Cyanamid	26¾	26¾
Am Elec Power	23¼	23¼
Am Home	30¾	30¾
Am Motors	4¼	4¼
Am Nat Res	41¼	41¼
Am Standard	27¼	27¾
Am Telephone	62¾	62¾
AMF Inc	20¼	20¼
Armco Steel	24¼	24
Asarco	21¼	21
Ashland Oil	33¾	34¼
Atlntic Richfield	50½	51¼
Avco	14¾	14¾
Avon Products	48	48¾
Babcock & Wcox	34½	34¾
Bankers Tst NY	37¾	38¼
Bank of America	29¼	29¼
Bank of NY	30½	30¾
Beatrice Foods	24¼	25
Bell & Howell	19¾	19¾
Bendix	25½	25¾
Bethlehem Steel	37¼	37½
Boeing	43¾	44¼
Boise Cascade	32¾	33¼
Borden	32¾	33¾
Borg Warner	31¼	31½
Bristol Myers	65¾	66¾
BP	14¾	14½
Budd	19¼	19¾
Burlington Ind	24	24¾
Burlington Nthn	46¾	47¼
Burroughs	67¾	68¾
Campbell Soup	36¾	36¾
Canadian Pacific	16¾	16¾
Caterpillar	54¾	54¾
Celanese	49½	49¾
Central Soya	14	13¾
Charter NY	20¾	20¾
Chase Manhat	30¾	30¾
Chem Bank NY	41¾	42
Chesapeake Ohio	40½	40¾
Chrysler	15¾	16¼
Citicorp	28¾	29
Cities Service	61½	61½
Clark Equip	37¾	37
Coca Cola	77¼	77¼
Colgate	24¾	24¾
CBS	36¾	36¾
Columbia Gas	28¾	28¾
Comsat	22¾	22¾
Comwlth Edison	20¾	20¾
Cons Edison	22¾	22¾
Cons Foods	24¾	24¾
Cons Power	12¾	12¾
Continental Grp	30¾	30¾
Continental Oil	34¾	33¾
Control Data	22¾	22½
Corning Glass	63¾	63
CPC Intnl	49	48¾
Crane	32¾	32¾
Crocker Int	27¾	27¾
Crown Zeller	40¾	40¾
Dart Ind	33¾	33¾
Deere	29¾	29¾
Del Monte	27¾	28¼
Delta Air	31¾	31¾
Detroit Edison	15¾	15¾
Disney	38	38¾
Dow Chemical	38¾	38¾
Dresser Ind	41	41¾
Duke Power	21¾	21¾
Du Pont	132¾	133¾
Eastern Air	7¾	7¾
Eastman Kodak	70	71
Eaton Corp	43¾	43
El Paso Nat Gas	14¾	14¾
Equitable Life	23	23¾
Esmark	31	31½
Evans P. D.	13	13
Exxon Corp	49¾	50¾
Fed Dept Stores	41¾	42¾
Firestone	21¾	21¾
Fst Chicago	19¾	19¾
Fst Nat Boston	27¾	27¾
Fst Penn Corp	16¾	16¾
Ford	36¾	37¼
GAF Corp	11½	12
Gamble Skogmo	29¾	30
Gen Dynamics	57¾	59
Gen Electric	50¾	51
Gen Foods	31¼	31¼
Gen Instrument	21	21¾
Gen Mills	27¾	27¾
Gen Motors	70¾	71¼
Gen Pub Util NY	19	19
Gen Tel Elec	29¾	29¾
Gen Tire	22	21¾
Genesco	5¾	5¾
Georgia Pacific	34¾	35¼
Getty Oil	15½	15¾
Gillette	26¾	26¾
Goodrich	30¾	30¾
Goodyear	20¾	21¼
Gould Inc	20¾	20¾
Grace	29¾	29¾
Gt Atlic & Pacific	13¾	13¾
Greyhound	14¾	14¾
Grumman Corp	18	18¼
Gulf Oil	28	28¾
Gulf & West	14¾	14¾
Heinz H. J.	30	30¾
Hercules	24¾	24¾
Honeywell	50½	51¼
IC Inds	24¾	24¾
Ingersoll	74¾	75½
Inland Steel	45¾	45¾
IBM	293¾	295¾
Int Harvester	34¾	34
INCO	30¾	31¼
Int Paper	38¾	38¾
Int Tel Tel	32½	32¾
Jewel Co	24½	25
Jim Walter	34½	35
Johns-Manville	30¾	31¼
Johnson & John	71¾	71¾
Kaiser Alumin	39¾	39¾
Kennecott	28¾	29½
Kerr McGee	66¾	67¼
Kimberly Clark	43¾	44¼
Kraftco Corp	43¾	43¾
Kresge SS	33¾	33¾
Kroger	25¾	26
Ligget Group	33¾	33¾
LTV Corp	11¼	11¼
Litton	14¾	14¾
Lockheed	9¾	9¾
Lucky Stores	15¾	15¾
Manuf Hanover	38¾	38¾
Mapco	42¾	42¾
Marathon Oil	56¾	57¾
Marine Midland	19¾	19¾
Martin Marietta	24¾	24¾
McDonnell	21¾	22
Mead	22¾	22¾
Merck	87¾	87¾
Minnesota Mng	51¾	52¾
Mobil Oil	66¾	67¾
Monsanto	78¾	78¾
Morgan J. P.	50¾	50¾
Motorola	46¾	48¾
NCR Corp	36¾	37
NL Industries	21¾	21¾
Nabisco	47¾	47½
Nat Distillers	23¾	23¾
Nat Steel	42¾	42¾
Norfolk West	34¾	33
NW Bancorp	52¾	53¾
Norton Simon	18¾	18¾
Occidental Pet	23¾	23¾
Ogden	25¾	25¾
Olin Corp	41¾	41¾
Owens-Illinois	53¾	53½
Pacific Gas Elec	23¾	23¾
Pan Am	4¾	4¾
Penney J. C.	40¾	40¾
Pennzoil	31	32¼
Pepsico	72	72½
Pet Inc	30¾	30¾
Pfizer	29¾	29¾
Phelps Dodge	35¾	35¾
Philip Morris	55¾	53¾
Phillips Petrol	27	26¾
Polaroid	34¾	35
PPG Ind	57¾	57¾
Procter Gamble	82¾	83¾
Pub Ser El & Gas	22¾	22¾
Pullman	33¾	34
Rapid American	5¾	5¾
Raytheon	55	56
RCA Corp	25¾	25¾
Republic Steel	33¾	33¾
Reynolds Ind	67	67¾
Reynolds Metal	42¾	42¾
Rockwell Int	33¾	33¾
Royal Dutch	54¾	54¾
Safeways	46¾	46¾
St Regis Paper	33¾	34
Santa Fe Ind	36¾	37¼
SCM	20¾	20¾
Schlumberger	56½	58¾
Scott Paper	17¾	18¼
Seaboard Coast	33¾	33¾
Seagram	23¾	23¾
Sears Roebuck	61¾	62¾
Shell Oil	68	70
Shell Trans	34¾	34¾
Signal Co	25¾	25¾
Singer	22	22¾
Sony	10¾	10¾
Sth Cal Edison	23¾	23¾
Southern Pacific	33¾	33¾
Southern Rly	58	59¼
Sperry Rand	30¾	29¾
Sqibb	29¾	29¾
Std Brands	28¾	28¾
Std Oil Califnia	38¾	40
Std Oil Indiana	51¾	52¾
Std Oil Ohio	50¾	51¾
Sterling Drug	35	35
Stevens J. P.	17¾	17¾
Stude Worth	41¾	41¾
Sunbeam Corp	21¾	21¾
Sun Comp	43¾	43¾
Sundstrand	34¾	34¾
Teledyne	60¾	60¾
Tenneco	33¾	33¾
Texaco	29¾	29¾
Texas East Trans	41¾	41¾
Texas Gulf	38¾	37¾
Texas Utilities	19¾	20
Textron	26½	26¾
TWA	9¾	10
Travelers Corp	32¾	32
TRW Inc	36¾	36¾
UAL Inc	20¾	20¾
Unilever Ltd	33	33
Unilever NV	51¾	51
Union Bancorp	13	12
Union Carbide	56¾	56¾
Union Oil Calif	37¾	37¾
Un Pacific Corp	53¾	53¾
Uniroyal	9¾	9¾
United Brands	8¾	8¾
Utd Merch & Man	21¾	21¾
US Industries	6¾	6¾
US Steel	47¾	47¾
Utd Technol	35¾	36¾
Wachovia	37¾	37¾
Warner Comm	27¾	28¾
Warner Lambert	27¾	28
Wells Fargo	25¾	25¾
Western Bancorp	27¾	27¾
Westinghse Elec	17¾	17¾
Weyerhauser	33¾	33¾
Whirlpool	24¾	24¾
White Motor	7¾	7¾
Woolworth	25¾	25¾
Xerox Corp	47¾	48¾
Zenith	22¾	23¾

Canadian Prices

	Mar 23	Mar 22
Abitibi	10¾	11
Alcan Alumin	26¾	26¾
Algoma Steel	17¾	17¾
Bell Telephone	49¾	49
Cominco	57¾	57
Cons Bathurst	26¾	25¾
Falconbridge	39¾	39
Gulf Oil	28¾	28¾
Hawker/Sid Can	4.60	4.65
Hudson Bay Min	19¾	19¾
Hudson Bay Oil	34	34
Imasco	26¾	26¾
Imperial Oil	22¾	22
Int Pipe	17¾	17¾
Mass.-Ferguson	10¾	10¾
Royal Trust	16¾	17¾
Seagram	24¾	24
Steel Co.	28¾	28¾
Talcorp	10¾	10¾
Thomson N 'A'	12¾	12¾
Walker Hiram	28¾	29
WCT	27¾	27¾

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 1.7178 (1.7187); three months, 1.6938 (1.6951); Canadian dollar 95.08 (95.03).

238.23 (238.72); utilities, 108.60 (109.12); 65 stocks, 307.92 (309.64). New York Stock Exchange index, 54.25 (

Stock Exchange Prices

Shares drift lower

Account Days: Dealings Began, March 14. Dealings End, March 25. § Contango Day, March 28. Settlement Day, April 5

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. e Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. significant data.

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 24.03.77 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1950):—

	Index No. Latest	Div. Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Index No. Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	172.86	6.59	11.25	174.46
Largest Coys.	174.72	6.39	10.66	176.49
Smaller Coys.	146.68	7.27	13.14	167.48
Capital Goods	189.95	6.59	13.17	191.13
Consumer Goods	183.81	7.14	10.54	184.85
Store Shares	138.46	7.19	8.06	139.90
Largest financial shares	183.08	6.24	—	184.94
Largest financial and industrial shares	176.31	6.36	—	177.42
Commodity shares	224.06	4.35	10.70	226.44
Gold Mining shares	274.19	8.04	15.38	277.30
Industrial debenture stocks	87.54	6.89*	—	87.74
Industrial preference stocks	55.36	12.67*	—	55.33
3½% War Loan	30¼	12.17*	—	30

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low
All-time	198.47 (15.08.72)	60.15 (12.12.74)
1977	176.23 (17.03.77)	151.39 (12.01.77)
1976	171.85 (06.05.76)	115.83 (27.10.76)
1975	166.92 (19.11.75)	61.42 (06.01.75)
1974	136.18 (28.02.74)	60.15 (12.12.74)
1973	189.33 (12.01.73)	130.89 (14.12.73)
1972	198.47 (15.08.72)	174.48 (10.01.72)

* Flat interest yield.

Residential property

Properties under £25,000

GRAHAM LIGHT & CO.
Estate Agents and Valuers
1 FORE ST., TORPOINT, CORNWALL
TELEPHONE: PLYMOUTH 812261
FOR PROPERTIES IN S.E. CORNWALL

CRAFTHOLE (Plymouth 5 miles)
Superb, modern, detached, 3-bedroomed property. Spacious lounge-diner, kitchen, cloakroom. Full c.h. and double glazing. Nr. golf course and beach. Immaculately maintained. Large gardens. Garage. Good views. FREEHOLD £21,500.

CAWSAND (Plymouth 6 miles)
Spacious detached Bungalow on ½-acre plot. 4 bedrooms, 2 receptions, sun lounge, kitchen, utility bathroom, separate w.c. Some sea views. Offers invited. FREEHOLD £20,500.

MILLBROOK (Plymouth 5 miles)
Individually designed and constructed, modern, detached, 3-bedroomed House in rural setting. Large lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility bathroom and shower. Garage. Gardens with stream. FREEHOLD £21,500.

MANSBRIDGE & CO.
Estate Agents & Surveyors
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24 HOURS ANSWERPHONE SERVICE

CHILLATON (7 m. Tavistock). Charming detached character Cottage set in approximately ½ acre. Extensively modernised. Night storage heaters. 3 double beds., lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory, bathroom with w.c. Large garage. Outbuildings. £23,500.
POSTBRIDGE (12 m. Tavistock). Set on Dartmoor. Unique detached Cottage with considerable character in grounds of ¾ acre. Night storage heaters. 3 beds. (2 with hand wash basins), lounge with inglenook fireplace, study area, sun room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom, 2 w.c's. Garage workshop. £22,500.
HORRABRIDGE (11 m. Plymouth). New detached Houses built to high specifications in good residential position. Full gas c.h. 3 & 4 beds., ½ reception, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, bathroom, 2 w.c's, integral garage. Garden. From £17,850.
TAVISTOCK (15 m. Plymouth). Attractive modern detached Bungalow, situated close golf course. Gas c.h. 3 bedrooms, 1-piano lounge, diner, well-fitted kitchen, bathroom, separate w.c. Garage. Garden. £18,750.

PRESTIGE PONT STREET, S.W.1.
Quiet, attractive views. One room 24ft. 4 in. x 17ft. 4in., bath and kitchen.
Lease 33 years.
Lift, Porter, c.h., c.h.w.
—to include c. & o., f. & t. *and furniture*—
£15,500
FERRIER & DAVIS
5 Beauchamp Place, S.W.3.
01-584 3232

DULWICH S.E.21
Adjacent College, Golf Club and station, 15 mins. West End and City. Modern town house, *excellent decorative order in* secluded maintained gardens. Large lounge adjoining dining area, fully fitted kitchen, laundry room, large master bedroom and bathroom, 2 further bedrooms all with fitted cupboards, 2nd bathroom. Gas C.H. Double garage.
£25,000 Leasehold (approx. 80 years)
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Luxury modern flat with distant views. 2 bedrooms, 33ft split-level lounge/diner. Fitted kitchen, bathroom, separate w.c. Garage. Convenient Metropolitan Tube lines. 20 mins Baker Street.
£23,500
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WEST SUFFOLK
Well modernised 17th century farmhouse in village location convenient Bury St. Edmunds. 3 recept., 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Oil C.H. Barn. Approximately 1 acre. £23,500 Freehold.
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High St., Debenham, Suffolk
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Close to all amenities. Modern and now luxury flats, centre of Weybridge, with superb park views. 2 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, bathroom and w.c., large reception room with exterior picture window, fully fitted kitchen. Ample storage space. Gas c.h. Garage. 93 years leasehold.
£15,950 (incl. all fitted carpets and curtains)
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COUNTRY COTTAGE
Delightful 17th Century thatched cottage in small village on Hampshire/Surrey border. 20ft. beamed living room with open fireplace, spacious kitchen, gas-fired C.H. 2/3 bedrooms, double garage. 1 hour to Waterloo.
£23,950 o.n.o.
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BRIGHTON
First-floor flat, lift, in period seafront building. Central position, spacious living room, bedroom, kitchen (Wrighton units), bathroom, 2 w.o.c. Fitted carpets, off-peak heating.
£9,500
for quick sale
Brighton 773718

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Small cottage with garden, near Bembridge Harbour.
£14,000
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Georgian Country Residence 8 mls. Diss. (Rail 2 hrs. London). Fully modernised and extended. Oil c.h. Secluded mature ½ acre garden. Easy access to Ipswich-Norwich (Airport). 3 recept., well fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. £25,000. Thomas Scofield, Chartered Surveyor, Attleborough. (0953) 453746.

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Detached, stone-built Cottage in village. 1 mile from A1, 2 hours drive from London. 2 bedrooms. Reasonably modernised, retaining character. Inglenook fireplace. C.H. throughout. £11,000.
THISTLETON (057283) 653

G.W. FINN & SONS

NR. CANTERBURY £17,500
Delightful "chocolate box" 2 bedroomed, thatched detached cottage, charming gardens.

SANDWICH BAY £17,500
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County Monaghan
Georgian farm house
Large farmhouse kitchen with Rayburn cooker, large utility room, spacious hall, dining room, sitting room, fireplaces *in all rooms except* kitchen.
3 double bedrooms, 1 single, large modern bathroom.
12 acres land, ideal for keeping horses, extensive outbuildings & extremely large farm yard, river running across part of land.
Very near to coast, shop & school.
£23,000
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Egerton, Kent
£19,950
6 miles Headcorn main line station. A charming detached Period House with inglenook and many exposed beams. 2 beds., sitting room, kitchen/dining room. Office. Conservatory. C.H. (Ashford Office.)
Detached picturesque Period Cottage, enjoying lovely rural views. *Main line station* 2 miles. Maidstone 7 miles. Tunbridge Wells 9 miles. Wealth of exposed timbers. 4 beds., 2 reception and inglenook. Fitted kitchen, etc. £18,500. (Maidstone Office.)

BELGRAVIA HOUSE
Quiet terraced house needing redecoration. 3 double bedrooms, (two with wash basins), bathroom, sep. w.c., kitchen. Pleasant garden, outhouse. Night storage heaters. Basement storage. 9-yr. lease, long lease available.
£17,500
to include carpets
Phone 235 4481

SILVER ST., WRAGBY
10 miles Lincoln
1 only non estate Georgian style 3 bed house. Full c.h. and garage; fitted kitchen and choice of coloured bathroom suite. Price £11,500 (fully incl.).
HUGH BOWN DEVELOPMENTS (Wragby) LIMITED, Louth Road, Wragby, Lincoln.
Tel. 540 & 359.

TOWN AND COUNTRY HOME
Little Venice. Motor narrow boat —residential mooring. Double bedroom, all fitted furniture, guest room & bathroom (bath, w.c., basin), lounge with (banquettes) Hygena kitchen (fridge, cooker), fully C.H., mains, auxiliary electricity, telephone. Lister 2 J.P. Engine. Excellent condition throughout.
£13,500
01-723 2867 day/01-723 2983 eves

Norfolk-Suffolk Border
9 miles Diss
Detached, 9-year-old, 2-3 bedroom Chalet. Ideal retirement or weekend home. Detached garage, double glazing throughout, good size garden.
Not overlooked and not on an estate. Must sell quickly
£11,500
Tel.: Diss 4304 (office hours)

LAMBOURN VALLEY
Most attractive period village cottage set in quiet position close to Lambourn Downs and overlooking the River Lambourn. Sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, 3 bathrooms, utility, 3 bedrooms, cloakroom. C.H. Dble. garage.
£24,500
Details from: John German & Son Ramsbury (06722) 566

BLACKHEATH, S.E.3
In country-like surroundings in quiet cul-de-sac, on private estate, easy walk of the village and station (C.H. X 20 mins.). An ultra-modern, 3-storey House of unusual design, blt. 1961. 3 bedrooms, large lounge, 15ft. sq. Kit./diner, bathroom/w.c. Underfloor heating. Secluded gdn. Open outlook at rear. Garage.
£18,750. 85-year lease.
JOHN PAYNE PARTNERSHIP
852 1716/318 4654.

SEAFORD
Ideal for home and income
Charming Georgian property (listed) in centre of town. Antique shop with spacious living accommodation comprising 5 beds., 3 baths, 25ft. reception (cedar wood hall), parlour, kitchen, cloakroom, cellar, patio garden, 25ft. workshop/garage with rear access. Many attractive features. Fabulous views of sea and Downs. £18,750 Freehold for quick sale.
Seaford (0323) 892417

CLOSE KNIGHTSBRIDGE
Conveniently situated in garden square. A haven for a tired commuter. Small self-contained pied à terre, approx. 14ft. x 11ft., plus boarded studio room, kitchenette, shower room and w.c. Rates and ground rent £105 and service charge approx. £80 per annum. 50 yr. lease.
£9,300
584 2692 (after 6 p.m.)

Barley Mow House, near Winchfield, Hampshire: £75,000 being asked.

Homes that have worn well

With ever-rising structural maintenance costs, buyers are beginning to take longer looks at not-so-old properties, such as those built between the wars. Building costs at that time were relatively much lower than now and allowed more room for manoeuvre in terms of space and standards of finish. Some very good country houses were built in that period and they have generally worn well.

Several good examples are for sale at the moment. One is Barley Mow House, near Winchfield, Hampshire. It was built in 1937, in the Georgian style, and has pink-painted brick walls, now partly covered by wistaria and other climbing plants, and a tiled roof. There is a drawing room 27ft long, a dining room, study and playroom, together with seven bedrooms and three bathrooms, all centrally heated. Gardens and grounds run to about seven acres and a half and include woodland and paddocks. The price is £75,000, through *Savills*.

A little older is Ladie Hill House, at Old Burghclere, near Newbury, Berkshire. Situated at the foot of the Berkshire Downs, it was built in 1928 by the present vendor's family and has never before been on the market. It has three reception rooms, a garden room, five main bedrooms, a dressing room, and two secondary bedrooms.

The house is being offered with about five acres of gardens and paddock at a price of more than £60,000. A further 53 acres is available and more than £110,000 is expected for the whole estate. The agents are Lane Fox and Partners, of London, and Dreweatt, Watson and Barton, of Newbury.

Broom House, Bottom Lane, Seer Green, Buckinghamshire, was built in 1926 by the late Sir Herbert Read, the poet and critic, who lived there until 1949. The house has white walls and a thatched roof and has two main reception rooms, a study and five bedrooms. Part of the garden is floodlit and includes an area of woodland. It extends to just over an acre. Offers of about £55,000 are being asked through Hetheringtons, of Beaconsfield.

Also in Buckinghamshire is Little Hockeridge, at Ashley Green, near Berkhamsted. It was built in 1935 but has an extra single-storey wing added in 1960. Construction is of red hand-made bricks with tile-hanging on three sides of the building. The main house has two reception rooms, four bedrooms and three bathrooms, but the newer wing, which is integral with the house but could be made self-contained, adds a reception room, bedroom and extra bathroom.

Gardens and grounds cover about seven acres, including an acre of woodland and about four acres of paddocks. The property is for sale through Brown and Merry, of Wendover. Offers of about £65,000 are being asked.

For all the attraction of more modern building, the so-called "period" house is still remarkably popular. A good example is provided by Murrell, at Murrell Green, near Hartley Wintney, Hampshire. Reputedly more than three centuries old and in the black and white timber-frame style, it is very much in the traditional manner, with plenty of exposed timbering inside and out.

It has a large combined sitting and dining room with an inglenook fireplace, three main bedrooms and a downstairs playroom or fourth bedroom. The garden has a brick-and-stone patio and amounts to about an acre and a half. The *price is £38,000, and the agents* are Messenger May Baverstock, of Fleet.

The Guildford office of the same agents is handling the sale of a small semi-detached cottage with potential for renovation in view of the amount of land which goes with it. 1 Lipcombe Cottage, at Farley Green, near Guildford, has a garden of just under half an acre and a fenced paddock of nearly an acre and a half, which is unusual for the type of property. Thought to be more than 150 years old, the *cottage has a sitting room and* three bedrooms. Outbuildings include a stable and a small barn. About £15,000 is being asked.

A house that has changed a lot is Folly Hill, at Ewhurst, near Cranleigh, Surrey, which is being sold by Lord and Lady Hanworth. It seems originally to have been a small cottage, which was much enlarged over the years. After the war it was modernized and reduced in size. It now has three reception rooms, five main bedrooms, and four secondary bedrooms on the second floor.

It is possible for part of the accommodation to be made into a staff or guest wing. Gardens and grounds extend to about seven acres and a feature is the approach through large iron gates along a cobbled drive. The price is £74,000; the agents are Weller Eggar, of Farnham.

About £75,000 is expected for Guildstrow, at Pilldown, near Newick, Sussex, the home of Mr John Rathbone, MP. The building is a typical Sussex farmhouse, which is probably about two hundred years old, with a whitewashed exterior under a tiled roof. It has three reception rooms, a playroom and five bedrooms.

There is a brick-and-tile stable block which has planning permission for conversion to guest or staff accommodation. Garden and paddock extend to about 4½ acres. The agents are Strutt and Parker, of Lewes.

The possibility of making separate accommodation is also provided by The Cottage, at Collingbourne Ducis, near Marlborough. Originally the building was three cottages dating from the fifteenth or sixteenth century which have been made into a single home. There are two reception rooms, a sun-room and four bedrooms. Since two of the bedrooms are approached by a second staircase, they could be used independently. *The garden is* about a third of an acre. The agents are Jackson-Stops and Staff, of London.

Gerald Ely

HEREFORDSHIRE
Bordering Black Mountains with views over renowned Golden Valley.
Recently modernised and extended stone & brick cottage with 2 reception, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and bathroom, garden, outbuildings, services £15,950 Freehold.
Apply:
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CHARTERED SURVEYORS
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OVAL, S.W.9
Close Waterloo and City. One bedroom luxury Flat. Gas c.h., fully fitted kitchen. 98-year lease.
£10,000
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GREENWICH
In a small sought after development on the edge of the heath, close Greenwich Park and easy walk of 2 stations. Luxury 2-bedroom, ground floor flat, approx. 7 yrs. old. *Featuring full gas c.h., well-*equipped kitchen and large lounge with balcony. Garage, lawned grounds. £16,500. 116 yr. lease.
JOHN PAYNE PARTNERSHIP
852 1716/318 4654

London & Suburban property

Eaton Mews North, S.W.1
A pretty, light and low-built house in a cobbled mews off Eaton Square.
It needs some care and attention and offers a double reception room, 2 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, kitchen. Low outgoings.
Lease 43 years (enfranchisable).
£32,000
01-229 5790

DULWICH BORDERS
Attractive, 1962, Town House in award-winning private crescent. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, kitchen, laundry, integral garage. Excellent cupboards and extra storage. C.H. and double glazing, patio garden and share in communal lawns. Trains to city and West End. Close good *state and private schools, Parks* and sports centre. Freehold £36,000. Tel. 01-778 8776 (after 7 p.m.).

RUCK & RUCK
13 Old Brompton Rd., S.W.7
01-584 3721
Earlsmere Gdns., S.W.7. Spacious 3rd floor flat overlooking delightful gardens. Large recept., 2/3 beds, C.H., C.H.W., lift, 80 yrs. lease. £42,500.

RICHMOND HILL
Secluded garden and early Victorian house fully mod. on 3 floors: 3 rec., 3/4 beds, 2 baths, kitchen/diner, gas C.H. and hard parking. £39,500.
John Granby & Co.
01-749 3305

ST. JOHN'S WOOD
Large brick built Georgian style house in secluded position. Spacious hall 23 reception rooms 6/8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large kitchen, breakfast room, etc. Garage, walled garden. 52 year lease.
£135,000 private sale
Call 01-722 2434 (day or evening)

IVERNA GARDENS, W.8. A spacious mansion flat in quiet position, close to Kensington High St. 3 beds., 2 receps., 2 baths., kit., breakfast room, cloakroom, balcony. 999 year lease. £57,500.—Cyril Leonard & Co., 409 2409.

Country property

By direction of the Governors
SAINT PETER'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, BIRMINGHAM
Close to the City Centre and M6 Motorway

A fully equipped Training College for Teachers with fine buildings that lend themselves of adaption for many purposes:
* Study Bedrooms for about 150
* Dining Hall and Common Rooms
* Many Lecture and Tutorial Rooms, Laboratories
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* Complex
* Assembly Hall (to seat 500) and Chapel
* Four Staff Houses and Six Staff Flats
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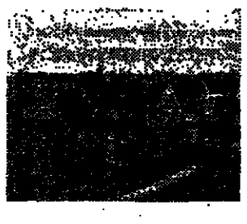

TOTAL AREA OF BUILDINGS—OVER 160,000 Sq. Ft. SITE AREA—NEARLY 7½ ACRES
For Sale by Private Treaty, Freehold
Apply
Chesshire, Gibson & Co.
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NEWPORT, GWENT
M4 Motorway 2 miles.
Outstanding detached 6 bed. Residence in an unrivalled position with superb country views, and containing 3 good receptions, large kitchen, luxury bathrooms, 3-car garage, full central heating, nearly 1/3rd acre gardens. Auction 6th April (unless sold previously). Full details:
TIPPINS & WILKINS, 68, Bridge St., Newport, Gwent.
Tel. 0633 67054.

SURREY/HANTS.—Haslemere 10 minutes. Secluded 18th century cottage, recently extended, 4 beds., 2 bathrooms. Small garden on to common and planned golf course. £30,950. Haslemere 52671.

NORTH LONDON.—Free list, approx. 300 houses, flats and maisonettes available on request. Alfred Slun & Co. Est. 1889. Tel. 01-883 0091: 24-hour answering service.

MARCH, Cambridgeshire, homestead: house (3 recept, 5 bed, bathroom, kitchen, scullery, conservatory) front and kitchen gardens, disused corn mill and forge coach-house granary and barn ranges, paddock, and fenced pastures (17 acres): for appointment to view telephone March (STD 033 42) 2769.

DERBYSHIRE
(M.1—5 miles. E. Mid. Airport—4 miles.) Period detached 3-bedroom Cottage to Let on instructions from the Marquess of Lothian. Exceptional quiet situation in the centre of Melbourne village adjoining the Norman Church and Melbourne Hall. Charming gardens extending to water frontage. Suit professional applicant with limited stay in the area.—Details from the Agents, John German & Son, The Rotunda, 151A High Street, Burton upon Trent. Tel. (0283) 43051.

FAWLEY
Nr. Henley
Unique, modernised Period Cottage incorporating round Tower in delightful country surroundings with extensive views. 3 beds., lounge, dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Plans for extension. Good sized garden. Garage space. Oil c.h. Freehold. J. Chambers & Co., 17 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames. Tel. (049-12) 2371.

FOR A COMPLETE GUIDE of properties for sale in the Isle of Man, contact the Isle of Man Courier, Ridge Way St., Douglas. Tel. 0624 23451.

LYMINGTON, HAMPSHIRE
Quiet street 2 minutes shops, ½ mile yacht club. Period town house, freehold. Studio in walled garden. Garage, standing for 2nd car. 3 bedrooms plus "granny flat" with 2nd bathroom/wc, sitting room with dining area opening onto garden, pleasant bow-windowed kitchen.
Needs Modernization
Great Potential
Vacant Possession
OFFERS AROUND £29,500
Tel: Lymington (0590) 72323 (Office hours)

BRIGHTON
Within easy reach Brighton marina and all amenities. Large, well maintained terraced house, select area. 2 beds. (1 dble.), bathroom with shower & w.c., large bay windowed lounge, dining room, fully fitted kitchen with 10ft. x 7ft. 6in. extension. Small front, large rear garden. Ample storage space. Parking for 2 cars/caravan/boat.
£13,750 Freehold
(incl. some fitted carpets)
Tel.: Brighton 685062

HOUSEBOAT
Steel hull. 83ft. long, 24ft. wide, sleeps six, secure mooring at Battersea, running water, electricity, telephone.
OFFERS AROUND £15,000 FOR QUICK SALE
Telephone 352 3860 day 235 3652 eves.

WEST HANTS DOWNS
Fordingbridge 3 miles. Superb house, 4 beds., 2 drcss., 3 bath., 3 rec., staff flat, 3 bed. cottage. Garage 4. Hard tennis court. Outbuildings. 55 acres. £150,000 freehold. Apply Fox & Sons, 5 & 7 Salisbury Street, Fordingbridge. Tel. 52121 (STD 0425).

KERSEY, WEST SUFFOLK. Stations. Detached Tudor Cottage residence in medieval weaving village of exceptional charm. Hall, cloakroom, 2 rec., large kitchen, 4 bed, 2 bath. Pleasant sheltered garden. Garage. £27,500 or reasonable offer. (Ref.: 7788). H. J. Turner & Son, 31a Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6AE. (Tel.: Sudbury 72833/4).

MORTGAGES

BUYING PROPERTY? Abinger & Co. will negotiate the right price for residential and commercial buyers. Our fees are based on the price reduction. No saving—no fee. Best mortgages obtained.—01-836 7626, telex 27706.

Overseas Property

SUPERBLY RESTORED TUSCAN FARMHOUSE
In 16 acres with swimming pool 45ft. x 20ft. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, large fully fitted kitchen, arched windows. Splendid views, more land available.
Price 100,000,000 Lire
or would exchange for small English country house with cash adjustment. Photos available.
Box 0200 J, The Times.

CANARY ISLANDS
Isla de la Palma
Beautiful bungalow. Magnificent sea views. Fully furnished with 3 further building plots all fully serviced (roads, electricity etc.).
Leonard Cohen & Co.
01-248 6047

JAMICA NORTH COAST
Superb investment at attractive prices and ideal for Canadians returning home.
Interest in successful 18-hole golf course and real estate potential. Acre participation in management available to purchaser.
Farms 15-1 acres.
Several fine houses with pools.
Exchange & payment in U.K. possible for some properties.
Box 0223 J, The Times.

GUERNSEY
ST. PETR PORT
Detached home of character registered as listed building. Comprises 2 reception, utility room, modern fitted kitchen, cloakroom, 5 beds., bathroom, sep. w.c., bedroom; full oil central heating. Set in secluded walled garden, with garage and greenhouse. £65,000 includes carpets, curtains, rate fixed to 1976. £9,000.
S. J. Torode, State Agents
0481 7095

NEXT TO THE SEINE RIVER
ON THE LEFT BANK in the heart of Paris
Luxury flats in XVIII Century building, newly restored and fully equipped. Phone Paris 633 46 36 or write C.G.T.I. 35 rue de Lille—75007—Paris.

SAN JUAN ALICANTE
Elegant apartment, 5 beds., 2 bath., running pools, porter. £17,000 furnished. Dollar premium p/l Parker. 0527 62601 (after 6.m.).

MARBELLA
4th floor luxury apartment overlooks port harbour and beach. 3 bd., 2 baths., superb furnishings.
Easily split to 2 apartments if required.
Lifts, pool, resident porter. 5 mins. walk to centre.
Details Box 0221 J, The Times.

MARBELLA
Two-room apartment, furnished, with large balcony, in prime position with unobstructed sea vw. £8,000, including all conts.
Ring Wolgham 2188 or write Box 0208 The Times.

SARS. Apartments & Villas for sale Spain. Send for lists (s.a.e. please). Cull 24 High St., Kings Lynn, Norfk. Tel.: 0553 2171-3746.

BARCELONA, Sta. Very well furnished villa overlooking beach 5 miles from city in 1,300 sq. metres garden: 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bth, 2 terraces, garage, large swimming pool. Apply Box 0161, The Times.

EXCHANGE/SELL Costa Blanca, in small residential village of Calpe. 2 bedroom lo furnished villa with 1,000 sq.metres of boundful landscaped gardens overlooking beaches & mountains. Carport for 2 cars (35 miles Alicante airport). Golf, yachting, etc., excellent restaurants and beaches, all within 2 miles. Price: £20,000 (open to offers). Exchange flat in central London, Kensington Park, w.11 garage to approx same value. Ideal retired couple or investment (own use/letting). Mr Hoffman: 01-937 9799 (10.30-12 or 6.30-9.30 p.m.).

SUN, SEA AND TRANQUILLITY. All this, and more if you buy my *first floor apartment in Mijas.* Use of swimming pool. Will sell outright at £900 or consider shared purchase. Access to low cost air travel existing management serve. My agents: Frost & Co. (be-connected on Beaconsfield (0494) 5555).

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Phone Ict 3789

HAMPSHIRE/SUSX border.—Easy reach of main station, 3 bedroomed bungal, fully furnished; washing made, refrigerator, central heating, 55 p.w.—Lane, Liss (073083 3168) or write, Peregrine Hse Rake, Liss Hants.

COUNT FLATS

CLOSE IPSWICH
Elegant Georgian house set in about 3 ac mature gardens including woodland. 6/7 bedrooms, 3 lrooms, usual domestic ces. S/c 4 roomed flat offers around £400.

EAST SUFFOLK
In rural posn. 17th century country hse. 2 reception, 4 bedrm, 2 baths. Oil C.H. Large stable garage. Approx 1½ acs. £35,000.
CLIFFORD J. HIGH ST., DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
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SUSSEX

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SUSSEX
Nr. Lewes
IMPOSING GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE
In rural setting with long river frontage to picturesque gardens and paddocks. Elegantly proportioned rooms. Large hall, 3 reception, cloaks, kitchen and utility room, large playroom, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. S/c g.f. Granny flat. Full oil-fired C.H. Outbuilding. Garage for 3. Colourful grounds with water feature. About 12 acres.
Price £65,000 Freehold

SUSSEX
Between Lewes and the coast
Magnificent Downland setting with panoramic views. Comfortable family house (1930's), in sheltered grounds. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hall, cloaks, 3 reception, modern kitchen, etc. Oil-fired C.H. Main elec and water. Double garage. Landscaped grounds and natural Downland about 8 acres.
Freehold for Sale

SUSSEX
Nr. Lewes
Edge of Downland Village and easy reach Brighton and Newhaven.
Victoria 1 hour
CHARMING FAMILY HOUSE IN THE MODERN QUEEN ANNE STYLE
(Circa 1926) on an elevated site with superb views to the Coast. 4/5 main bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. S/c wing with sitting room, kitchenette, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. Hall, 3 reception, study, sun room, breakfast room and kitchen, oil-fired central heating throughout. Heating. Double garage. Swimming pool and hard tennis court. Informal gardens and grounds—about 4 ACRES. *Detached Cedarwood cottage.*
For sale freehold with Vacant Possession
Joint Agents:
ROWLAND GORRINGE & CO.
64 High Street, Lewes, Sussex.
Tel: (07916) 4101.
And
FAREBROTHER ELLIS & CO.
28 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1AL
Tel. 01-353 9344

EAST SUSSEX (10 miles Eastbourne) with exceptional views to the Downs. Fine traditional country house of 5 bedrooms, etc. Oil heating. Garaging for three. Recreation room, sauna, swimming pool, hard tennis court. Secluded gardens. Paddock. 3 acres. Stabling, buildings. 2 bungalows and up to 50 acres available in addition. For Sale by Private Treaty. Braxton, Witton & Co., Heathfield (Tel. 2217).

BATTLE
Overlooking the green immediately in front of Battle Abbey—a town house about 250 years old. Oil C.H., 2 reception, conservatory, kitchen, utility room, 2 offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, 2 further rooms on lease as surgery.
£21,000 freehold
Also available walled garden and swimming pool.
£24,000
BRAXTON WATSON & CO.
Battle 3333

WEST SUSSEX COASTAL AREA
ALDWICK BAY
Seafront road—50 yards beach
Fine Marine Residence, built 1934 to high specification, excellent condition throughout, [illegible] Carers Sun Balcony with Sea Views. Impressive L-shaped Lounge/Dining Room, well appointed kitchen, [illegible] room, utility room, cloakroom. Double garage. Oil fired central heating. [illegible] landscaped garden. Walled patio, etc.
£29,500 FREEHOLD
Including fitted carpets and many curts.
TEL: KING AND CHASEMORE, RUSTINGTON 73691

London Flats

GROSVENOR COURT
SLOANE ST., S.W.1. Prestige 6th floor (top) flat. 3 bedrooms, 1½ reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, C.H., lift, porter. 53 year L/H. £48,000.

LOWNDES LODGE
CADOGAN PL., S.W.1. Superior modern 2nd floor flat. 3 bedrooms (fitted cupboards), 2 reception rooms (inter-communicating), 2 bathrooms, kitchen, C.H., lift, porters, entry-phone. 76 year L/H. £52,750.

UNFURNISHED FLAT TO BE LET WITHOUT PREMIUM
HARLEY ST., W.1. Superior modern flat. 2/3 bed., 1½ reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen; C.H., lifts, porters. Rent £1,625 p.a. excl. Garages, garage bay available.
ANTHONY HUTLEY
1, PARK WEST PL., W.2.
TEL.: 01-262 5611.

PROPERTY WANTED

EDUCATIONAL ORGANISATION requires large country house, long term lease. Anywhere UK. To hold tutorials and seminars with private accommodation for principal and family. The Secretary, 118, Monk Bar Chambers, Monkgate, York.

CHELSEA GREEN, W.3. Superb 1st floor flat in an exclusive block. 6 rooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and roof terrace. 88 year lease. £46,500. [illegible] Richard Berry & Partners.
THE PARAGON. Blackheath. Spacious 2 room flat. Long lease. 01-852 4100.

Appointments Vacant also on pages 8 and 26

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Botswana and Swaziland
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SWAZILAND
Applications are invited for *the post of*
LECTURER/ASSISTANT LECTURER IN LAND USE
in the Faculty of Agriculture. Applicants should have a B.Sc. Agric. (Hon.) and/or M.Sc. Agric. or equivalent. The appointee will teach degree and diploma students in surveying, soil conservation, land use planning and related subjects. Basic Salary Scale (salary scales and conditions of service are currently under review): Lecturer, £5,934 to £6,876 p.a.; Assistant Lecturer, £3,744 to £5,544 p.a. (£1 sterling equals £1.49). Salary scale and entry point according to qualifications and experience. Short-term contracts for two, four or six years for expatriates; permanent and pensionable terms for local candidates after successful completion of two years on probation. If appointment is for limited period a 25% gratuity is paid in lieu of superannuation for the first two years of service; 37½% for the second two years. The British Government may provide salary supplementation in certain circumstances. A 10% inducement allowance is payable to expatriates not qualifying for supplementation from other sources. Housing allowance of 9% of basic salary. Education allowance for expatriates, free ordinary medical attention, accommodation at reasonable rental, travelling expenses for appointee, wife and dependent children on appointment and normal termination. Biennial leave. Detailed applications (3 copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming three referees should be sent not later than 30 April 1977 to the Registrar, University College of Swaziland, Private Bag, Kwaluseni, Swaziland. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send 1 copy to Inter-University Council, 36/37 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

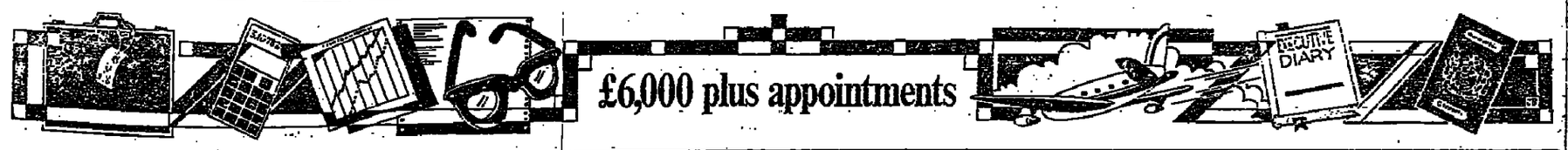
NOTICE
All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The University of Lancaster
LECTURER IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Social Administration, tenable from 1 September, 1977, in the recently established Department of Social Administration. Preference will be given to candidates with a special interest in medical care and the ability to teach economic aspects of social policy. However, applications with other specialisms will also be considered.
Salary on the scale £3,855 to £6,585.
Further particulars may be obtained (quoting reference L75/D) from the Establishment Officer, University House, Lancaster LA1 4YW, to whom applications (five copies) naming three referees, should be sent to arrive not later than 26th April, 1977.

The University of Leeds
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN
Applications are invited for a post of Assistant Librarian in the University Library. The post will be attached to the new science Library. Candidates should be graduates in science or applied science with professional library qualifications and/or appropriate experience.
Salary will be within the range £5,174 to £6,418 (Grade IA).
Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT, quoting reference number 116/A/A. Closing date for applications 18 April, 1977.

University of Nottingham
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Applications are invited for a
LECTURESHIP
in the above Department. Salary will be within the range £2,333-£6,605 per annum although the appointment will be made initially in the first three points: £2,333, £2,647, £3,761 per annum.
Forms of application returnable not later than 25th April, 1977, from the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref. No. 500.



COUNTY TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Group Economic Services Officer

POST REF: T28

Grade PO2(c) — Salary: £6729-£7407 + £312 Salary Supplement

This post is the most senior one in a small section of professional economists within the County Treasurer's Department of an authority which operates a system of corporate management. The County Council is the strategic planning authority for the sub-region and is particularly committed to promoting local economic development.
The duties of the Economics Section include the analysis of economic trends and policies of national or regional significance, especially those relating to the statutory requirements or policy initiatives of the authority, and the subsequent preparation of concise reports. While some of the work is of a recurrent nature, most of it will concern ad hoc assignments on issues arising from Committee discussions or work progressing in other departments. The Section is also largely responsible for preparing applications to the EEC for Regional Development Fund assistance as well as monitoring the local effects of EEC policies.
The ideal candidate will have good academic qualifications with several years' post-graduate experience that includes the analysis of policy issues relating to the interests of the Authority and/or economic forecasting.
Please write or telephone for application form, quoting Post Ref T28, to the Chief Executive (Personnel), South Yorkshire County Council, Barnsley, South Yorkshire — Telephone: Barnsley 86141, Extension 266.
Note: This is a re-advertisement and previous applicants need not re-apply.
Closing date to applications will be 7 April 1977.

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Obstetrician/Gynaecologist (Male) Sumatra

One of our Associate Companies, P.T. CALTEX PACIFIC, INDONESIA, reques an Obstetrician/Gynaecologist in their Medical Department which covs a wide area in Central Sumatra and consists of two hospitals and four out-atients clinics.

The elected candidate will be responsible to the Chief Medical Officer for Obstrics and Gynaecology within the areas of operation. He should have his I.R.C.O.G. and appropriate experience.

An ttractive salary will be offered in accordance with experience and qualications and in addition a living allowance is payable and furnished houng provided. Club and golf facilities are available.

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Plere send curriculum vitae, requesting application form to:

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Calex (U.K.) Limited,
30 Id Burlington Street, London W1X 2AR.
quoting reference OGS/TT

CALTEX

DIRECTOR OF FOOD RESEARCH INSTITUTE

COLNEY LANE, NORWICH, NR4 7UA

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Food Research Institute which will become vacant when the present Director retires on the 30th September 1977.
The work of the Institute involves studies of the physiology and biochemistry of food plants; of the chemical composition of food in relation to its nutritive value and storage properties; of the microbial population present on food stuffs at the various stages between harvest and consumption and of the manner in which these populations affect safety and quality.
Candidates should have qualifications or equivalent experience in one or more of the disciplines encompassed by the above description together with a substantial record of research and proven ability in the conduct and management of research.
The post is graded Deputy Chief Scientific Officer, the initial point on the salary scale being £10,180 rising by two annual increments to £11,190. There is a non-contributory superannuation scheme.
Closing date for applications is 15th April, 1977.

AFRC

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Dr Gareth M. Price, Agricultural Research Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6DT.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

NON-SECRETARIAL

BUYING ASSISTANT

This is an opportunity for a person aged 20/25 with ability, tact and drive to join a progressive Merchandising Team. The successful applicant will handle telephone queries, liaise with suppliers, assist Branches with supply problems and handle customer queries. "A" level education and previous office/administrative experience essential. Our luxury offices are situated close by Putney Bridge Station and excellent conditions include restaurant, staff discount and bonus scheme.

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69/73 Fulham High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
Telephone: 731 1313.

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required by

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Further information and application form from:

Mrs. B. Simpson, Tavistock Centre, Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA. Tel. 01-435 7111.

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for the

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The Chairman,
Committee of Management,
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Appointments Vacant also on pages 8 and 25

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Please apply with full curriculum vitae, quoting Reference 969.

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Assistant Secretary

(INFORMATION SERVICES)

The Metals Society operates a wide range of secondary information services in connexion with metallurgy and the metals industry. It is looking for an experienced manager to develop and market these services profitably.

Candidates of either sex, between 35 and 50 should possess: a degree or professional qalification; an understanding of science and technology; awareness of information as a tool. Experience in information activities in the application of computer techniques and of the metals industry would be advantageous.

Attractive terms, including a company car, will be offered; salary negotiable.

For further details and an application form please write to Michael Hall at 1 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5DB (marking envelopes "Confidential —Assistant Secretary"), or ring Margaret Egan on 01-839 4071.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Wales

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University of Western Australia

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in the Law School. No particular field of interest is associated with this position. The current salary for an Associate Professor is $A24,971 p.a. Benefits include superannuation similar to FSSU, fares to Perth for appointee and dependent family, removal allowance, study leave and long service leave and housing loan scheme. Further information including conditions of appointment may be obtained from the Staffing Officer.

Applications in duplicate stating full personal particulars, qualifications and experience should reach the Staffing Officer, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009, by 30 April, 1977. Candidates should request three referees to write immediately to the Staffing Officer.

University of Nottingham

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN LABORATORIES AND DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

Applications are invited for

POST-DOCTORATE APPOINTMENT

supported by the Cancer Research Campaign for research on the immunology of ovarian cancer. The post is suitable for a person with biochemical training and expertise in immunology is desirable. The salary will be on the scale £3,333 to £5,637 according to experience. Applications as soon as possible giving curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of 3 referees to the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Dundee

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

in the Department of Civil Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and to conduct research. Applicants with interests and expertise in any of the main fields of civil engineering will be considered for this post; experience of civil engineering work in hot climate countries would be particularly welcomed.
Salary scale £3,333 to £6,655. Superannuation under U.S.S. or continuation of F.S.S.U. Grant towards removal expenses to Dundee. Applications (six copies, overseas applicants one copy), containing the names of three referees and quoting reference EM/167/7C, should be sent by 21st April, 1977, to The Secretary, The University, Dundee DD1 4HN, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Durham

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Applications are invited for one or two posts of

TEMPORARY LECTURER IN BOTANY

tenable for two years from 1 October 1977. Applicants from all fields will be considered, ecological experience an advantage.
Salary on the scale £3,333 to £6,655 plus superannuation.
Applications (three copies) naming three referees should be sent by 22 April, 1977, to the Registrar and Secretary, Science Laboratories, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Bayero University College, Nigeria

Applications are invited in the FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY for the post of

PROFESSOR AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY

Candidates should hold a Ph.D. (preferably in Civil Engineering), experience in teaching, research and curriculum development, experience in planning a new faculty of Engineering, staff development and recruitment. Familiarity with the problems of technical education in a third world country is essential. The Dean will be responsible for developing a training programme for engineers. He should have a broad educational background and considerable knowledge of many branches of engineering. Industrial experience would be an advantage. Salary: N11,064 to N12,420 p.a. (£6,650 to £10,613 p.a. sterling; £1 sterling=N1.17). There may be supplementation of salary by £2,160 p.a. (sterling) for married appointees. (Single Professor will not be eligible for supplement: (usually free of tax and reviewed annually) and provision for children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. Family passages; various allowances, superannuation scheme; biennial overseas leave. Detailed applications (4 copies) including a curriculum vitae and names of 3 referees, should be forwarded by airmail, not later than 1st April 1977 to the Registrar, Bayero University College, Kano, Nigeria. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send 1 copy to Inter-University Council, 29-31 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Hong Kong

LECTURESHIP IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Orthopaedic Surgery. Applicants should have a medical degree registrable with the Medical Council of Hong Kong and appropriate experience in orthopaedics. Preference will be given to applicants with higher qualifications (F.R.C.S. or equivalent).
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Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or the Assistant Secretary (Recruitment), University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Closing date for applications is 30 April, 1977.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON KING'S COLLEGE

LECTURER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Civil Engineering tenable from October 1st, 1977, or as soon as possible thereafter.
An interest in the field of Fluid Mechanics and in particular in Marine Technology will be an advantage. The Lecturer will also be expected to teach some elementary surveying.
Salary scale £3,333-£6,633 plus £430 p.a. London allowance. U.S.S. contributions would be payable.
Application forms and conditions of appointment are available from the Registrar, King's College, Strand, London WC2R 2LS, and should be returned to him by April 4th, 1977, quoting ref. 123/S.

University of Strathclyde

Applications are invited from METALLURGISTS or PHYSICAL SCIENTISTS for the

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in THE DEPARTMENT OF METALLURGY to work under the direction of Professor N. J. Petch and Dr. C. Burdett in an Aluminium Research Group that has been formed at Strathclyde. The aim in the first instance is to apply dislocation theory to understanding the plastic deformation of aluminium and its alloys.
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The University of Lecce Italy

LECTOR

in English required November, 1977. Applicants should have Honours Degree, with Postgraduate qualification or University teaching experience. Monthly salary 250,000 lire. Curriculum vitae with references should be addressed to: The Director, Istituto di Lingue Straniere, Facoltà di Magistero, Università di Lecce.

University of Cambridge

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Wadham College, Oxford

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ECRETARY Shorthand Typist, Assistant for Organiser of fund raising events including the Women of the Year Luncheon. Good salary, LVs. Contact Iona Harris, Greater London Fund for the Blind, 363 0191.

ECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Marble Arch—See Non Sec Vacs.

ROOK ST. Overseas: This week's selection from our posts available: New York: Sec. Shorthand Typist, 21/35. Algeria: bi-lingual (Fr/Eng), 24+. Milan: Sec./P.A., bilingual Cantonese/Eng., 30. We also require male secs. for the Middle East. For further details of these and other positions contact Brook St. Overseas, 10 South Molton St., London, W.1. 01-499 6822.

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405 6896

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Glitter and tinsel returns to Friday nights with a new high-stepping series of Come Dancing (BBC1 10.46) complete with compere Terry Wogan, The Ipcress File (BBC1 11.26) started a new type of spy film with Michael Caine on top form, but eryl's Lot (ITV 7.0)—once a well observed domestic serial—is now run-of-the-mill oap opera. The final episode of the present superb comedy series Porridge (BBC1 .30) finds Godber due for parole.—T.S.

BC 1

0 am. Open University: Baroe Wind Instruments; 7.05, echanization of the Cotton Industry ; 7.30-7.55, Geophysical chniques. 12.45 pm, News. 0. Pebble Mill. 1.45-2.02, umpton. 3.20, Dechrau Canu chrau Cannol. 3.55, Play hool. 4.20, Roobarb. 4.25, Jackanory. 4.40, Lippy Lion. 5, Crackerjack. 5.35, Paddton.

40 News. 5.55, Nationwide.
00 Tom and Jerry.
10 The Fantastic Journey.
00 Are You Being Served ?
30 Porridge.
00 News.
25 Harry O.
15 Tonight.
46 Come Dancing.
26-1.11 am Film: The Ipcress File (1965), with Michael Caine, Nigel Green, Guy Doleman, Sue Lloyd.

ional variations (BBC 1): WALES: 1.45-2.00 pm, ...gn Sboncyn. 3.20-3.55, Transmitters closedown. 5.55-6.20, Wales ... 7.00, Heddiw. 7.25, ...dish. 7.50-8.00, Tom and Jerry ... 10.15-10.45, Kane on Friday. SCOTLAND: 3.20-3.55 pm, Transmitters closedown. 5.55-6.20, Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00, Current Account. 10.15-10.45, 'Se Ur ...ha. NORTHERN IRELAND: -3.53 pm, Transmitters closedown. 3.53-3.55, Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20, Scene Around Six. 5-10.45, The Gig in the Round. LAND: 10.15-10.45 pm, East, ...scue; Midlands, Countrywide; ...ndar; North, The Everlasting ...e; North-East, Look Closer; North-West, Is it Worth It ?; South, ... in Question; South-West, ...ac and Co; West, It's the Wur-

glia

0, Thames. 1.25 pm, Anglia ... 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Video-...77. 5.45, News. 6.00, About ...a. 6.35, ATV. 7.30, London. The Streets of San Francisco. ATV. 10.30, Probe. 11.00, ...oud. 12.45 am, Christians in ...n.

rder

0, Thames. 1.20 pm, Border ... 1.30, Thames. 6.00, Border ... 6.35, ATV. 7.30, The Bionic ...n. 8.30, ATV. 10.30, Springs... 11.00, Film: Licensed to Kill. Tom Adams, Karel Stepanek, ...a Hurst. 12.45 am, Border ...

V

0, Thames. 1.20 pm, West ...lines. 1.45, ... Headlines. Thames. 3.00, Women Only. Thames. 5.15, Sinbad Junior. Crossroads. 5.45, News. Report West. 6.15, Report ... 6.30, Big Boy now ! 7.00, ... 7.30, The Bionic Woman. ATV. 10.35, Report Extra. -12.40 am, Film: In Search ... Gregory. HTV CYMRU/...: As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.45, Taro-mlaen. 6.00-6.15, ...dd. 6.30-7.00, Dave Allen and ... 10.35-11.05 Outlook. HTV ... As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 ... Headlines. 5.15-6.30, ... West.

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University: Impacts of Mining. 7.05, Curriculum Design and Development. 7.30-7.55, Great Expectations. 11.00-11.25, Play School 5.20, Open University: Electrolysis and Oxidation. 5.45, Applicant Advisory Programme (1). 6.10, Economic Exchange in Ibadan. 6.35, Frank Lloyd Wright.

7.00-7.05, News Headlines.
7.30 Newsday.
8.05 Gardeners' World.
8.35 Money Programme: The Common Market in Italy.
9.00 Pot Black 77: Graham Miles v Willie Thorne.
9.25 Horizon. The Mystery of King Arthur and his Round-Table.
10.15 The Roads to Freedom.
10.55 Beethoven Plus One.
11.45 News.
11.55-12.45 am, Badminton: All England Championships from Empire Pool, Wembley.

Westward

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Treasure Hunt. 7.30, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.30, Beryl's Lot. 9.00, ATV. 10.32, Westward News. 10.35, Late with Danton. 10.50, Film: Girl on a Motorcycle, with Alain Delon, Marianne Faithfull. 12.25 am, Faith for Life.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.25, Thames. 5.15, Snip and Snap. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Emergency. 7.30, The Bionic Woman. 8.30, ATV. 10.30, Ways and Means. 11.00, Late Call. 11.05-12.05 am, Sneak Preview.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Calendar Sport. 5.45, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35, ATV. 7.30, The Bionic Woman. 8.30, ATV. 10.30-12.30 am, Film: The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, with Richard Burton, Claire Bloom, Oskar Werner, Peter Van Eyck, Sam Wanamaker.

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Mary Tyler Moore. 5.45, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Thingummyjig. 8.00, The Electric Theatre Show. 8.30, ATV. 10.30, Points North. 11.30, Department S. 12.25 am, Reflections.

Ulster

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Lunchtime. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Spiderman. 5.45, News. 6.00, Ulster Television News. 6.05, Crossroads. 6.30, Reports. 6.50, Police Six. 7.00, ATV. 7.30, Six Million Dollar Man. 8.30, ATV. 10.30, Counterpoint. 11.00, Charlie Chan. 12.30 am, Bedtime.

Thames

12.00, Kathy's Quiz. 12.10 pm, Rainbow. 12.30, Sounds Like McEvoy. 1.00, News. 1.20, Today's Post. 1.30, About Britain. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.25, Racing from Doncaster. 3.50, The Cedar Tree. 4.15, Dominic (r). 4.45, Magpie. 5.15, University Challenge.

5.45 News.
6.00 Matter of Morals.
6.35 Crossroads.
(r) repeat.

London Weekend

7.00 pm, Beryl's Lot.
7.30 Sale of the Century.
8.00 Emergency.
9.00 Raffles.
10.00 News.
10.30 Police 5.
10.40 Russell Harty.
11.40 UFO (r).
12.40 am. Epilogue (r).

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.10, This is Your Right. 5.15, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.25, Kick Off. 7.00, ATV. 7.30, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.30, ATV. 9.00, Raffles. 10.30, Film: Scream and Scream Again, with Vincent Price. 12.15-1.15 am, Ryan.

ATV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Friday's People. 5.45, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, Beryl's Lot. 7.30, Emergency. 8.30, Sale of the Century. 9.00, Raffles. 10.00, News. 10.30-12.15 am, Film: The Vampire Lovers, with Ingrid Pitt, Peter Cushing.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.25, Thames. 5.15, Weekend. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Day by Day/Scene South East. 6.30, Out of Town. 7.00, London. 8.00, The Bionic Woman. 9.00, ATV. 10.30, A Way of Life. 11.00, Film: Home for the Holidays, with Walter Brennan, Jessica Walter. 12.20 am, Southern News. 12.30, Weather. Epilogue.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, North East News. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, The Addams Family. 5.45, News. 6.00, Northern Life. 6.35, ATV. 7.30, The Bionic Woman. 8.30, ATV. 10.30, Sportstime. 11.05, Film, The Haunted House of Horror. 12.40 am, Open Bible.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.00, Simon Bates. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Paul Burnett. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, DLT. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, John Dunn.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, Treble Chance. 7.30, Semmos Songs.† 8.02, Paul Fenoulhet.† 9.02, Music Night.† 10.02, Sports Desk. 10.05, Barn Dance.† 11.00, Kid Jensen.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan. (8.27, Racing bulletin). 9.02, Jean Metcalfe.† (10.30, Waggoners' Walk). 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 1.50 pm, Sports Desk. 2.02, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, John Dunn.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Ian Jackson (1,500m). 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3

6.55 am, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.05, Mendelssohn, Strauss, Haydn.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Rossini, Manfredini, Handel. 9.00, News. 9.05, Bartok. 9.45, BBC Concert Orchestra: Gardiner, Fox, Walton, Langford, German.† 10.45, Chopin and Britten Recital: Part 1.† 11.20, Music and the Singer: Talk. 11.30, Recital: Part 2.† 12.05 pm, Concert, part 1: Mozart, Prokofiev.† 1.00, News. 1.05, Playbill.† 1.20, Concert, part 2: Tchaikovsky.† 2.15, Royal Repertoire: Hindemith, Martin.† 3.30, Schumann's Zeitgeist.† 4.45, The Young Idea.† 5.45, Homeward Bound. 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued). 6.30, Get by in Spanish. 7.00, Get by in German. 7.30, London Mozart Players: Schubert, Mozart, Haydn.† 9.00, Inside Kant: Discussion. 9.35, Purcell Anthems.† 10.15, Poetry Now. 10.40, Violin and Piano: Webern, Schoenberg, Strauss.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4

6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.35, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Voice of the People: 027-433 8452. 10.00, News. 10.05, Checkpoint. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Silence, a portrait in music. 11.50, Sam's Story. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Just a Minute. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: The Nonconforming Nonconformist. 4.00, News. 4.05, Any Answers? 4.35, Story: The Diary of Anne Frank. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Hinge and Bracket. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News. 7.05, The World in Focus. 7.30, Pick of the Week. 8.30, Any Questions? 9.15, Letter from America. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.55, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: Joseph and the Goths. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.25, Week Ending. 11.50, News. 12.11-12.14 am, Inshore forecast.

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CRETE Easter weekend flight. Depart Friday, 8 April, return Tues 12 April. £59 pp. Just The Ticket. 01-629 7126 (ATOL 719B).

SOUTH OF FRANCE. Cannes 10 mls. Comfortable, historic house. 6 beds., 3 baths, glorious surroundings. Gardens, woods, meadows, river. Mid-June onwards. £250-£450 p.w. 01-435 7584.

TUSCANY, nr. Florence. Excellently converted farmhouse, all mod. cons. Superb views. Sleeps 8. Early bookings advisable. Waller, 0734 (Eversley) 733054, after 7 p.m.

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SUNSITES CAMPING holidays, family tents ready-erected, fully furnished, on 14 sites in France. Our "package" does it all for you at "budget" prices—surprisingly cheap. 32-page brochure full of details from: Sunsites, Ref. T9, 1 South St., Dorking, Surrey. Dorking 87733.

(continued on page 28)

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Appointments Vacant	8, 25 and 26
Business to Business	18
Domestic Situations	18
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Flat Sharing	27
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Wanted	27

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Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8EZ

Deadline for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for proofed advertisements) is 13.00 hrs prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

". . . There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God."—1 Samuel 2 : 2.

BIRTHS

ABNETT.—On March 22nd, to Joanna (nee Davies) and Richard—a daughter (Camilla), sister for Jennifer and Thomas.

ACHESON.—On March 21, at Hereford, to Pauline (nee Wilson) and Malcolm—a daughter (Ruth Gemma).

ARCHIBALD.—On March 23rd, at Victoria Maternity Hospital, Barnet, Hertfordshire, to Marian and John—a daughter (Sarah Jane).

DAWNAY.—On March 23rd, to Charmian and Guy, at the Lindo Wing, St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington—a son.

DE JONGH.—On March 24th, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Elizabeth and Nicholas—a son.

FOSTER.—On 24th March, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Fiona (nee Robertson-Glasgow) and Ian—a son (William).

HARRIS.—On March 24, at Pembury, to Caroline (nee Carpenter) and Robert—a son (Mark Nicholas), a brother for Susan.

JENNINGS.—On March 23rd, at Westminster Hospital, to Camilla (nee Rank) and Jeremy—a son.

LEWIS.—On 22nd March, to Fiona (nee Collicott) and Richard—a brother for Rosie.

MURLIS.—On March 19th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Helen (nee Evans) and John—a son.

PARDEY.—On March 20th, at Tunbridge Wells, to Jill (nee Stoker) and Richard—a son (Dominic Simon Henry), a brother for Susan and Christopher.

PEARCE.—On March 15th, 1977, to Margaret (nee Poinion) and Robert, at Poole General Hospital—a daughter (Katie). A sister for Lucy.

PETTIT.—To Diane, wife of Charles on 24th March, 1977, at St. Teresa's Hospital, S.W.20—a daughter (Page Emma Joan).

PRETTY.—On February 23th, 1977, at the Hammersmith Hospital, to Rosemary and Ted Pretty—a daughter (Henrietta Clare).

QUINNEN.—On March 23, to Pammy (nee Urquhart) and Peter at Queen Mary's, Roehampton—a son (Henry John), brother for Thomas.

REEVE.—On March 18th to Linda and Tim—a daughter (Suzy Haldee).

UNSWORTH-WHITE.—On March 24th, to Virginia (nee Browning) and David—a daughter (Sarah Jane).

WALTON.—On 22nd March, at Kingston Hospital, to Clara (nee Rodriguez) and David—a daughter (Carlina Patricia). A sister for Philip.

WEATHERBURN.—On 19th March, 1977, to Linda (nee Nugent) and Philip, of Cookham Dean, Berks—a daughter (Aspen Tanya).

WOOLLEY.—On Tuesday, March 22, at St. Martin's Hospital, Bath, to Jennifer (nee Lane) and Richard—a daughter (Imogen Fiona). A sister for Alistair.

DEATHS

BARFORD.—On March 22nd, 1977, suddenly, at Willow Road, Hampstead, Peter Stanley. Funeral service in St Mary's Church, Chart Lane, Reigate, on Wednesday, 30th March at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Croydon Crematorium. Relatives, cut flowers only to the church.

BELL.—On March 23, peacefully in her 92nd year, Jessie Latto, widow of David and loved mother of James and Jean. Funeral private.

CAMPBELL-BOWLING, JOY.—On Sunday, 20th March, 1977, peacefully at home. Funeral Friday 25th at Golders Green Crematorium, 3.30 p.m. Cut flowers only to 133/138 Freston Road, London, W.10, by 2 p.m., Friday 25th March.

CYZER.—On March 24th 1977, in peace at home. Quenie Cyzer, widow of Harvey Cyzer. Funeral today 2.30 p.m., Willesden Jewish Cemetery.

DAWKINS.—On March 24th, 1977, suddenly and peacefully at her home, Little Polesdon, 227 Farley Road, Selsdon, Surrey, Dorothy Marianne, daughter of Sir Clinton and Lady Dawkins. Service at Croydon Crematorium on Tuesday, 29th March, at 2.30 p.m. Flowers may be sent to J. B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

de SALIS.—On March 22, 1977, suddenly, Winifred Alice, Countess Peter de Salis, aged 67. Funeral service at St John the Baptist Church, Colerne, Wiltshire, on Friday, March 25th, at 2.30 pm, followed by cremation. No flowers, by request.

DICKINSON.—On 24th March, 1977, at St. David's Hospital, Brecon, John Douglas, of Glanhonddu, Brecon, aged 67. Funeral at Llandefaelog Church, Brecon, on Monday, 28th March, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations to Friends of Brecon Hospitals, c/o Midland Bank, Brecon.

HETT.—On 11 March, 1977, at St. Margaret's Nursing Home, Hythe, Annie Marie ("Nancy") Hett, of 10 Warwick Road, Walmer, widow of Percy William Hett. Private cremation. Memorial service and burial of ashes at Little Mascelden Church, Wednesday, 30th March, at 11.30 a.m.

JAMES-RIKOWSKY.—On March 16th, 1977, in peace, Karl James-Rikowsky. Buried near his country home in Herefordshire on March 21st. He had a full rich life.

KALAMOTUSIS, PYGMALION VASILIS.—On March 22nd, suddenly and peacefully whilst in Nice. Beloved husband of Kalliopi, dear father of Mandy and Stelios and loved grandfather of Georgie & Leon. Funeral service will take place on Monday, 28th March, 11 am at The Greek Cathedral of St Sophia in Moscow Rd. Donations preferred in lieu of flowers to The Greek Orthodox Charity Organization, 5 Craven Hill, W.2. All enquiries please to J. H. Kenyon Ltd. Telephone 229 3810.

LAIDLAW.—On March 23rd, 1977, peacefully in hospital, Douglas Alexander James, of Northwood, beloved husband of Betty and father of Douglas, Astrid, Gedrun and Petra. Service at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, on Tuesday March 29th, at 11.30 a.m. No flowers, please, or letters, but donations if wished to Leukaemia Research.

LEIGH.—On March 16th, 1977, Vera Marion Leigh, of 14 Eaton Gdns, Hove, Sussex, widow of Geoffrey Hamilton Leigh. Cremation has taken place.

MICKLEM.—On 21 March, 1977, Brigadier Ralph, C.M.G., C.B.E., Royal Engineers, Retd., loving husband of Eve and beloved by all his family. Memorial service for relations and friends will be announced later. Please, no letters.

PONSONBY.—On 23rd March, 1977, at Blantyre, Malawi, Eleanor Elizabeth Anne. Funeral at Church of Scotland, Blantyre, 4.30 p.m. today.

SCHACHT, DOROTHY (Dorrie).—On March 7th, in Birmingham, widow of Joseph Schacht, Professor of Arabic Law at Leyden and Columbia universities.

SNOW.—On March 23rd, Kathleen Mary Ashworth Snow. Greatly loved wife of Dr Richard Henry Barlor Snow and mother of Anne, Gillian and John, peacefully after a short illness in Cirencester Querns Hospital. There will be a Requiem Mass at St Peter's, Cirencester on Tuesday, March 29th at 2.15 pm, followed by a short service at Sapperton Church at 3.15 pm and burial in Sapperton Cemetery. Afterwards an open invitation to tea at the Old Smithy, Tunley, Sapperton, Cirencester.

STRONG.—On March 23rd, suddenly at Boscombe Hospital, Rosamond Marie Anne, aged 84, much loved sister of Samuel, Philip and Stephen. Cremation private.

TAYLOR.—On 20th March, 1977, Barbara Anne, beloved friend. Funeral service 29th March, 2.30 at St Mark's Church, St John's Wood, NW8. Cremation follows at Golders Green.

WATSON (nee Hall).—On 13th March, at Barking Hospital, in her 86th year after a distressing illness. Ella, widow of Squadron Leader J. E. Watson, M.B.E. (Retired) and most dearly loved mother of "Babs", 11 Lambourne Road, Seven Kings, Ilford.

WILDMAN-LUSHINGTON.—On Tuesday, March 22nd, 1977, suddenly at her home, "Inverdart", Kingswear, Grace Evelyn. Very dear aunt and great aunt. Funeral service at 2 p.m., Monday, March 28th, at Kingswear Parish Church, prior to cremation.

FUNERALS

ALLAN.—The service for Winifred (Pooh) Allan will be held on Monday, March 28th, at Frant Parish Church, at 11.15 a.m. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to The Distressed Gentlefolk Aid Association.

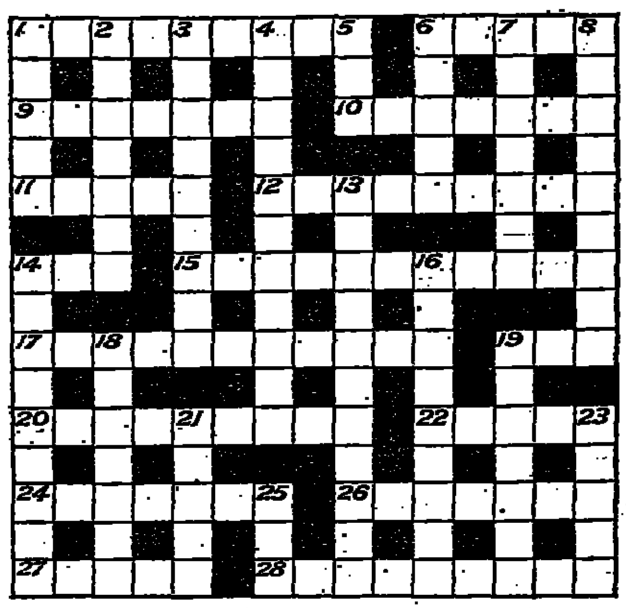
MENDES DA COSTA.—The service for Michael David Mendes Da Costa of 1 Warwick Square Mews, SW1, will take place at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Thursday, March 31st, at 3 pm, followed by burial at St Marylebone Cemetery, East Finchley, N2, at 3.50 pm. Flowers and enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd, 74 Rochester Row, SW1. Tel: 01-834 4624.

MORTON, DR WILLIAM HASTINGS. Funeral 28th March, 1977, at 2.15 p.m., at The Church of The Good Shepherd, Carshalton Beeches, and afterwards at 253 Stanley Park Road, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey. Flowers and enquiries to Truelove & Son Ltd., 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey, or donations, if desired, for Geological Research Fund, Professor J. Sussman, Manchester University.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LISEMORE.—A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Martin Lisemore will be held at All Souls', Langham Place, at 2.30 p.m., on Friday, 1st April.

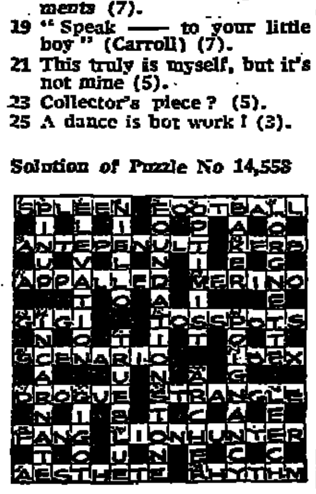
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,559



ACROSS
1 Feast day for late-working graduates? (9).
6 Money, thanks to cattle-food returns (5).
9 Like Henley's head, in spite of the blood (7).
10 Do climbers find its ascent sticky? (3, 4).
11 Draw a hole of course (5).
12 Snowball letters displayed in the Tower (5-4).
14 Payment about right for 14 dn at first (3).
15 Much spadework goes into these seaside play productions (4-7).
17 This much rye can produce harmony of movement (11).
19 Pole had no use for spoilt children (3).
20 First outfit carries a note for a French general (9).
22 Fit jest for the Japanese? (5).
24 Unrivalled plant (7).
26 Such a muddle the French make (that's Irish, darling) (7).
27 Letters collared by dignitaries (5).
28 Model specialist to do key work (9).

DOWN
1 Express sleeping-berth? (5).
2 Sky clouds a blue blur in the north-east (7).
3 Did Emily write "Hurrish" thus illegally? (9).
4 Passed round for health contributions in Alberta? (8, 3).
5 Decline to turn the gas up (3).
6 Keen type for work, the fellow holds me up (5).
7 Dock note on ritual reform (7).
8 With crossbars erected badly in waste land (9).
13 See islands in cheap £1 trip in old ship (11).
14 Once a mercenary journalist (9).
16 To us notes changed the style of playing (9).
18 Makes clear about punishments (7).
19 "Speak —— to your little boy" (Carroll) (7).
21 This truly is myself, but it's not mine (5).
23 Collector's piece? (5).
25 A dance is hot work! (3).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,558



MEMORIAL SERVICES

MANSON.—A memorial service for Robert Manson will be held at All Saints Church, Lindfield, Sussex, on Thursday, 31st March, at 3 p.m. No flowers, please, but donations if desired to Childrens Play Appeal Fund of National Playing Fields Association, 25 Ovington Square, SW3.

PACE.—A memorial service will be held for Carlos Pace at Farm Street Church, Mayfair, W.1 on Friday, 25th March, at 7.30 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

TURFFREY, SIDNEY CHARLES, June 28, 1968.—Remembering always, and especially today, his birthday, our beloved brother. With God. At peace.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

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ST. GODRIC'S College Ball, Saturday, 28th May 1977 at Holiday Inn, Swiss Cottage, London N.W.3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AND YOU CAN HELP TO SAY WHEN

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CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN
Dept. TX1, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

IN BEREAVEMENT.—Send your tribute in a form that never fades with a donation to help old people in need. Help the Aged, Room L1/T8/10, Denman Street, London W1A 2AP.

EXPERIENCED archaeological volunteers required now. S.a.e. Inner London Archaeological Unit, 42 Theobalds Rd., London, W.C.1.

HAPPIER LIVES for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London EC2.

ARTHRITIS.—Advances in treatment and research are reviewed in the special World Rheumatism Year edition of ARC, magazine of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. Send 60p for a year's subscription (3 issues) to A.R.C., 8-10 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HN.

VISITING LONDON for 6 to 12 months?—See Rentals Column.

MIDNIGHT BLUE.—Spring Sale Now.—See For Sale column.

RECEPTIONIST / TELEPHONIST, Wimpole St.—See Non-Sec. Vacs.

NORTH ITALY.—English Teacher for Sept.—see Pub & Educ Appts.

MAYFAIR Housekeeper to live out. See Domestic Sits.

HANOVER FAIR. Businessmen's Package Tours.—See Hols. & Villas.

FORMER rubber estate manager.—Ph.D. student in geography wishes to contact anyone who has worked in Malaya 1930-1970.—Box 0802 J, The Times.

WANTED, couple to look after house. See Domestic Sits.

PLEASE REPORT TO POLICE whereabouts of white Rover UGN 846F as disabled driver owner cannot afford another. V.A.W.

PERSONAL Stationery. Full/part time vacs. See Non. Sec. Appts.

FIRST BABY. Are you having yours at home sometime during the next 3 weeks? If so serious researcher would like to hear from you. Please ring 01-743 1272 and ask for ext. 6406, or evenings/weekends 01-485 8953 (reverse charges).

FINANCE OFFICER for Institution of Production Engineers.—See Finance & Accountancy Vacs.

ITALY/GERMANY teaching vacancy.—See Public & Educ. Appts.

PERCY THRILLINGTON has been studying form, and is confident that he has picked a winner for this weekend's activities at Doncaster.

TWO REPS for N.E. and S.W. London.—See Gen. Vacs.

£4,250 p.a. Top Secretary—short term assignment.—See Sec. Appts.

FINANCE OFFICER required. City of London Poly. See Finance and Accts. Appts.

COUNTRY WEEK-END pied-a-terre in comfortable Sussex cottage and some gentle gardening in exchange for occasional midweek Central London.—Box 0807 J, The Times.

RAY OR SUE, phone Dave today, not when it's too late.—D.W.C.

CAN YOU THINK on your feet?—See Sec. Vacs.

QUALIFIED TEACHER, grad. in mod. languages. See Non-Sec. Appmts.

WALT DISNEY Productions requires Secretaries. See Sec. Appts.

PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS? See Secretarial Appts.

ACOUSTIC GUITAR/VOCALIST needs another, evenings, w/ends. No cash yet, but good times. S.W.6.—Tel. 731 0703 (6-3 p.m.).

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY (formerly Friends of the Poor), 42 Ebury Street, London SW1W 0LZ, have been helping people in a quiet way since 1905. Will you enable us to continue helping them?

U.S.A. Electrical Engineer reqd.—See £6,000 + Appts.

SECOND CHEF required.—See Gen. Vacs.

LARGE COUNTRY HOUSE, long lease required. See Prop. Wanted.

KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.—Litigation solicitor. See Legal Appts.

MAYFAIR SOLICITORS require 2 Secretaries.—See Sec. Appts.

WOULD LADY wearing red jacket in back row of upper circle at the Apollo Theatre on Wednesday, 23rd March, who left evening paper for me to read, please contact for dinner. Box 0842 J, The Times.

METROPOLITAN REGIONAL Examinations Board requires administrative officer. See Display Appts.

PLEASE HELP Sister Agnes's to meet the ever-increasing cost of assisting Officers of all three Services, who hold or have held regular or temporary commissions, as well as their wives and widows. Assist us to maintain our low charges, still under half those of most hospitals. Donations and legacies to Appeals Secretary, King Edward VII's Hospital, 6 Buckingham Place, London, SW1E 6HR.

CLERK, general duties.—See General Vacancies.

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SALUTE TO 'BOMBER' HARRIS

A Bomber Command reunion dinner in honour of The Marshal of the R.A.F., Sir Arthur Harris, former C.-in-C. Bomber Command, 1942-45, is to be held at The Grosvenor House, London, on April 30th. Former Air Crew will be attending from Australia, Canada, U.S.A., Holland and France. They include many who took part in the Dambuster Raid, Sir Barnes Wallis, 3 holders of the Victoria Cross, 7 Air Chief Marshals, 2 Air Marshals and Air Vice-Marshal Don Bennett of the Path-finder Force.

If you served in Bomber Command, 1939-45, Air Crew, Ground Staff, W.A.A.F., etc., and would like to attend

Please ring 01-444 9454 day, 01-317 7243 eve, or write 104 Kirkland St., Plumstead, London, S.E.18.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SURGERY . . .

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If you need surgery you would like to know that standards in this country are of the highest. This independent College organises *post-graduate education and controls examinations* which ensure their continued maintenance.

In addition the College undertakes considerable research in fields such as anaesthesia, arthritis, birth defects, blindness, cancer, dental caries, organ transplantation and thrombosis.

All these activities are financed largely by donations, covenants and *legacies. Support for this work* is a truly vital investment.

Your gift or enquiry will be welcomed by the Appeals Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL

Admission of boys in September 1977.

Owing to reorganisation, applications can be accepted later this year than will be usual for boarding and day places.

Choristers (boarders): There will be a few vacancies for boys, *aged 8-9½. Voice trials* will be held on Wednesday 8th June in London. Applications must be received by 15th April.

Day boys: There will be vacancies for day boys aged from 8 to about 10½. Entry tests and interviews will be held on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th April.

Interim prospectus and further details obtainable from:
Peter Hannigan, Headmaster-*elect, c/o. Archbishop's House,* Westminster, London SW1P 1QJ.

CANCER RESEARCH

"I wish I could do something." How many times have you said or thought that? You can help by remembering that the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's work depends completely on voluntary support. Your donation will further our cancer research work and the hospital treatment of cancer patients. Please send your gift to: Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Room 160J, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.

WANT TO STAY YOUNG?

Read "Young at Heart", a fund of good advice by leading specialists. £2 post free from Age Action Trust, 101 Queen Victoria St, EC4P 4EP, to whom all profits accrue.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR, use your car to help the old and lonely one Sunday afternoon a month. Phone Contact, 01-240 0630.

INDIA TEA CENTRE, Oxford St. Exhibition fantastic leather bags.

HAVE YOU LOST A TREE or a *shrub? If so send for help and* get our leaflet.—The Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund, 6 Sydney Street, London SW3 6PP.

RICCI BURNS, hairdresser, requires P.A.—See Sec. Vacs.

INTERIOR DECORATOR required.—See Gen. Vacs.

BUYING PROPERTY?—For expert negotiation—see Mortgages.

WINE AND DINE

BERYL BRYDEN sings tonight with the Stan Greig Quartet—Bruce Turner, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, Soho, W.1. Tel. 437 9595.

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YACHT

available for immediate charter in South of France, sleeps 6 & 8 in deluxe conditions with crew of two. Special rates for Easter.

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UK HOLIDAYS

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LUXURY NARROWBOAT. Heating, shower, fridge, 2 double berths, for cruising Severn, Avon canals. Available now from £62 p.w. 01-609 5872 (eves.).

PEMBS. Luxury coach house flat, sleeps 8, superb country setting, 3 miles from coast. £45-£120 pw. Crunwere House, Llanteg, Narberth, Dyfed, Llanteg 607.

LAKE DISTRICT.—17th century farm house and semi-detached cottage, all mod. cons. Pet donkeys/ponies/croquet.—Dr E. Hernandez, Arnside 761819.

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NORTH WALES Cottages in private park, some vacancies Easter, Whitsun and season. Abergele 823110.

NORTH DEVON.—Cottage to let. Sleeps 6. Garden. Close Exmoor.—01-948 2006.

CAIRNGORMS, Scotland.—Modernised cottage, superb view. Sleeps 4/6. £35-£40 p.w. Free April 23-May 28, *July 2-July 23; Aug.* 27-Sept 3, and Sept. 17 onwards.—01-579 6548.

DESIGNER'S coastal cottage, Newport, Pembs. Fully equipped. Sleeps 4-6. Brochure Marlow 3201.

EAST SUFFOLK, 11 miles coast. Secluded det. mod. cottage, sleep 8, available May 7th-June 4th, £50.00 p.w.; June 18th-July 23rd, £55.00 p.w.—Details from Stanford, Broom & Stanford, 20 *Thoroughfare, Halesworth,* Suffolk. Tel. 2131.

BUNGALOW facing sea. 66 Wicklands, Saltdean, Brighton 36286.

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(continued on page 27)

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